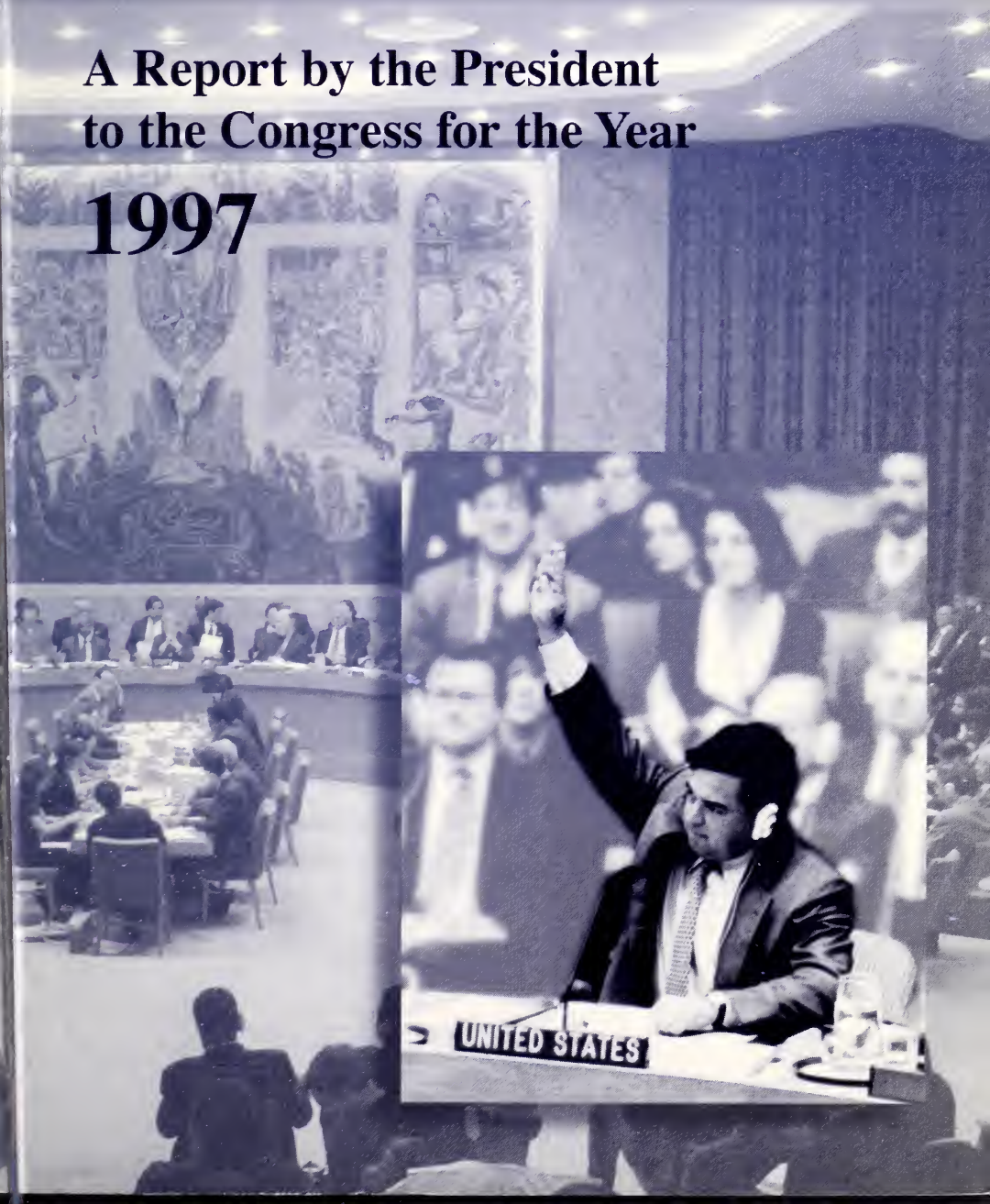
United States Department of State

United States Participation in the United Nations

A Report by the President to the Congress for the Year 1997



United States Participation in the United Nations

Report by the President
to the Congress
for the year 1997

Contents

Acronyms and Short Forms vii

1. Political and Security Affairs

Regional Issues 1
Middle East 1
Situation in the Middle East 1
UN Interim Force in Lebanon 2
UN Disengagement Observer Force 2
UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East 2
Iraq 3
Tenth Emergency Special Session 4
Africa 5
Angola 5
Burundi 6
Central African Republic 7
Democratic Republic of the Congo/Zaire 7
Liberia 8
Libya 9
Sierra Leone 10
Western Sahara 10
Western Hemisphere 11
Guatemala 11
Haiti 12
Other Areas 13
Afghanistan 13
Albania 14
Cyprus 14
Georgia 15
Tajikistan 16
The Former Yugoslavia 17
Special Political Issue 20
International Peace and Security 20
Disarmament Issues 21
Disarmament Commission 21
Conference on Disarmament 22
First Committee 22
Other Issues 23
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space 23
Law of the Sea 24
Non-Self-Governing Territories 24

2. Reform of the United Nations

Reform of the United Nations 27
Secretary General's Reform Initiatives 28

ECOSOC Reform 30
Peacekeeping Reform 31
Security Council Reform 32

3. Economic and Development Affairs

Economic and Development Activities 33
Regional Economic Commissions 33
Economic Commission for Europe 34
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific 35
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean 35
Economic and Development Bodies and Programs 36
UN Development Program 36
UN Children's Fund 37
Population Activities 38
Human Settlements 39
UN Conference on Trade and Development 40
Commission on Sustainable Development 40
Nineteenth Special Session 41

4. Human Rights and Social Issues

Human Rights 43
Commission on Human Rights 43
Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities 44
General Assembly 44
Status of Women 44
Commission on the Status of Women 44
Economic and Social Council 46
General Assembly Consideration 46
Crime Prevention and Control 46
Drug Abuse Control 47
Coordinating UN Disaster Relief and Humanitarian Assistance 48
Track II Reform Proposals 49
Economic and Social Council Consideration 50
General Assembly Consideration 50
ReliefWeb 51
World Food Program 53
UN High Commissioner for Refugees 54
Executive Committee Action 54
General Assembly Consideration 54
World Social Situation 55

5. Science, Technology and Research

UN Environment Program 57
Protection of World Climate 58

UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation 58

6. Legal Developments

International Court of Justice 61
Oil Platforms 61
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya v. United States of America 62
International Law Commission 62
UN Commission on International Trade Law 63
UN Model Law on Cross-border Insolvency 63
Draft Convention on Commercial Finance 64
International Electronic Commerce 64
International Project Finance 64
UN Training and Assistance 65
International Criminal Court 65
Decade of International Law 66
Host Country Relations 66
International Terrorism 68
Strengthening the Role of the United Nations 68
International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the Former Yugoslavia 69

7. Administration and Budget

Current Financial Crisis of the United Nations 71
UN Budget 71
Audit Reports 72
Financing Peacekeeping Operations 73
Scale of Assessments 74
Committee for Program and Coordination 76
Joint Inspection Unit 77
International Civil Service Commission 78
Human Resources Management 79
Employment of Americans 80

8. Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 83
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) 84
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) 86
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) 87
International Labor Organization (ILO) 88
International Maritime Organization (IMO) 90
International Monetary Fund (IMF) 91
International Telecommunication Union (ITU) 91
ITU Council 92
World Radiocommunications Conference 92
UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) . 92

Universal Postal Union (UPU) 94
World Bank Group 94
World Health Organization (WHO) 95
Pan American Health Organization 98
International Agency for Research on Cancer 98
UNAIDS 99
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) 99
Administrative Organization 99
WIPO Governing Bodies 100
WIPO-WTO Cooperation 100
World Meteorological Organization (WMO) 100
World Trade Organization (WTO) 101

Appendices

1. Address by President William J. Clinton 103

2. Principal Organs of the United Nations 109
General Assembly 109
Security Council 112
Trusteeship Council 112
Economic and Social Council 112
International Court of Justice 113

3. United States Representatives 115
UN General Assembly 115
Subsidiary and Other Bodies 116
Security Council 117
Trusteeship Council 117
Economic and Social Council and Related Bodies 117
Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies 119
U.S. Permanent Representatives to the United Nations from 1946 to 1997 120

Index 123

Acronyms and Short Forms

ACABQ	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
ACC	Administrative Committee on Coordination
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
C–24	Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples
CD	Conference on Disarmament
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
COPUOS	Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
G–7	Group of 7
G–77	Group of 77
Habitat	UN Center for Human Settlements
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
IDA	International Development Association
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFC	International Finance Corporation
ILC	International Law Commission
ILO	International Labor Organization

IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INSTRAW	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
IOM	Intergovernmental Organization for Migration
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
MINURSO	UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
MIPONUH	UN Civilian Police Mission in Haiti
MONUA	UN Observer Mission in Angola
NAM	Non-Aligned Movement
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
OAS	Organization of American States
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OIOS	Office of Internal Oversight Services
ONUSAL	UN Observer Mission in El Salvador
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PLO	Palestine Liberation Organization
UNAVEM III	UN Angola Verification Mission III
UNCED	UN Conference on Environment and Development
UNCHR	UN Commission on Human Rights
UNCITRAL	UN Commission on International Trade Law
UNCTAD	UN Conference on Trade and Development
UNDC	UN Disarmament Commission
UNDCP	UN International Drug Control Program
UNDOF	UN Disengagement Observer Force
UNDP	UN Development Program
UNEP	UN Environment Program
UNESCO	UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFICYP	UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
UNFPA	UN Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNIDO	UN Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	UN Development Fund for Women

UNIFIL	UN Interim Force in Lebanon
UNIKOM	UN Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission
UNITAR	UN Institute for Training and Research
UNMIBH	UN Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina
UNMOGIP	UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan
UNMOP	UN Mission of Observers in Prevlaka
UNMOT	UN Mission of Observers in Tajikistan
UNOMIG	UN Observer Mission in Georgia
UNOMIL	UN Observer Mission in Liberia
UNPREDEP	UN Preventive Deployment Force
UNRWA	UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNSCEAR	UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation
UNTAES	UN Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium
UNTSO	UN Truce Supervision Organization
UPU	Universal Postal Union
U.S. AID	U.S. Agency for International Development
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

Part 1

Political and Security Affairs

Regional Issues

Middle East

Situation in the Middle East

The 52nd General Assembly failed, for the first time since 1993, to adopt a resolution expressing full support for the achievements of the peace process and calling for international support for the economic and social development of the Palestinian people. The draft resolution was withdrawn by the cosponsors (United States, Russia and Norway) after agreement could not be reached by the cosponsors with the Arab group and Israel on controversial proposed changes to the text.

In December the Palestinian observer mission attempted to bring to a vote a resolution to upgrade its status in the General Assembly. This proposal would have conferred on the Palestinian observer mission all rights and privileges of members except those of voting and candidature, and in so doing would have granted the Palestinian mission rights greater than those of the two observer states, the Holy See and Switzerland. The United States strongly opposed this resolution on the grounds that the areas under the control of the Palestinian Authority do not constitute a state, and should not be treated as one in the General Assembly. In addition, the United States argued that the Palestinian bid, if successful, would have overturned decades of precedent and practice in the General Assembly and set a harmful precedent for the future. On December 9 the measure was withdrawn by its sponsors after it lost a key procedural vote on a proposed European Union (EU) amendment 57 to 65 (U.S.), with 32 abstentions.

The United States continued to oppose a number of the perennial resolutions on the Middle East (Syrian Golan, Question of Palestine, Israeli Settlements, Palestinian Right to Self-Determination, Israeli Practices). The United States opposes these resolutions because they address permanent status issues that are the subject of negotiations between the parties, they advocate activities or language incompatible with basic principles of the Middle East peace process and/or they expend resources that could be used in better ways to improve the lives of the Palestinian people.

UN Interim Force in Lebanon

The UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was established by Security Council resolution 425 in March 1978 in response to an Israeli operation in southern Lebanon which, in turn, had followed a PLO attack inside Israel. It was intended to confirm the withdrawal of the Israeli army from southern Lebanon, restore peace and security in the area, and assist the Lebanese government in restoring its authority in southern Lebanon. Although UNIFIL has been unable to carry out its mandate fully, the mission contributes to stability in the region by providing a measure of protection and a neutral authority for civilians in the area. The Security Council extended UNIFIL's 6-month mandate on January 28 (Resolution 1095) and again on July 29 (Resolution 1122). Both were adopted unanimously. On December 31 UNIFIL had a troop strength of 4,468 personnel from nine countries.

On August 6 an Irish soldier and four Italian soldiers were killed when a UNIFIL helicopter crashed during a routine exercise. The United States does not contribute troops to UNIFIL. However, the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) assists UNIFIL in the Israeli-occupied security zone in southern Lebanon and the two U.S. military observers in UNTSO occasionally may be called on to participate in its activities.

UN Disengagement Observer Force

The UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) was established after the 1973 Arab-Israeli war to supervise the disengagement of Israeli and Syrian forces on the Golan Heights in accordance with the U.S.-negotiated Israeli-Syrian agreement of May 1974. The mission plays a positive role in the Middle East peace process, serving U.S. national security interests by maintaining confidence levels and preventing the escalation of tensions between Israel and Syria. The Security Council has extended UNDOF's mandate at 6-month intervals, most recently through resolution 1139 of November 21, which was adopted unanimously.

In June 1997 two Austrian peacekeepers were murdered in a still-unexplained incident on the Golan Heights. As of December 31, 1997, UNDOF had a troop strength of 1,048. The United States does not contribute troops to UNDOF. However, the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) assists UNDOF on the Golan Heights and the two U.S. military observers in UNTSO occasionally may be called on to participate in its activities.

UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly adopted a group of seven resolutions on the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Voting on the resolutions was as follows: resolution 52/57 "Assistance to Palestine refugees" was adopted by a vote of 159 to 1, with 2 (U.S.) abstentions; resolution 52/58 "Working Group on the Financing of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East" was adopted by consensus; resolution 52/59 "Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities" passed by a vote of 159

to 2 (U.S.), with 1 abstention; resolution 52/60 "Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees" was adopted 163 (U.S.) to 0, with 1 abstention; resolution 52/61 "Operations of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East" passed by a vote of 158 to 2 (U.S.), with 3 abstentions; resolution 52/62 "Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues" was adopted 158 to 2 (U.S.), with 3 abstentions; and resolution 52/63 "University of Jerusalem 'Al-Quds' for Palestine refugees" passed 158 to 2 (U.S.), with 3 abstentions.

In its explanation of vote, the U.S. Delegation underscored its longstanding commitment to the work of UNRWA, noting that the United States would continue to support UNRWA's important educational, health, social and humanitarian relief programs. However, the U.S. Delegation expressed criticism for the inclusion of politicized language in several of the resolutions, and urged that narrow political agendas be set aside so that UNRWA could receive the wholehearted support it deserves.

Iraq

During three bimonthly reviews, the UN Security Council determined unanimously that Iraq had failed to comply fully with the Council's resolutions relating to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. The United States regards the failure of the Government of Iraq to comply with resolutions of the Council, including its refusal to cooperate fully on weapons of mass destruction issues, failure to account for missing Kuwaitis, failure to return stolen Kuwaiti property and cultural artifacts, failure to respect the human rights of its citizens, and the failure to end support for and participation in terrorism, as a continuing threat to international peace and stability in the region. The United States and the Security Council continued to support the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which are tasked with overseeing the destruction and monitoring of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction programs.

On June 21, after a series of Iraqi provocations that included blockage of UNSCOM inspections and interference with UNSCOM aircraft while in flight, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1115. The resolution condemned Iraq's refusal of access to UNSCOM as a "clear and flagrant violation" of relevant resolutions, suspended further sanctions reviews until after UNSCOM's 6-month report to the Council in October and expressed the firm intention to impose "additional measures" if Iraq did not comply. This resolution was the first to contain new punitive measures against Iraq since 1994.

After further incidents of Iraqi interference with UNSCOM inspections, on October 23 the Council adopted resolution 1134, which expressed "grave concern at the report of additional incidents since the adoption of resolution 1115" and decided that "such refusals to cooperate constitute a flagrant violation of Security Council resolutions." Sanctions reviews were suspended once again until April 26, 1998. On October 29

Iraq informed the president of the Security Council that beginning on October 30 Iraq would not accept Americans working with the Special Commission and ordered them out of Iraq within 1 week.

On November 12 the Council passed resolution 1137, which condemned "the continued violations by Iraq of its obligations" and expressed the firm intention to take "further measures" to enforce the Council's will. In a presidential statement on November 13, the Council again condemned the Iraqi decision to obstruct UNSCOM inspections. In November Iraq announced that UNSCOM could resume its normal activities, including the use of American inspectors. However, at the end of 1997, Iraq continued to disrupt UNSCOM inspection activities and insisted that "presidential and sovereign" sites would remain off-limits to the weapons inspectors.

The UN humanitarian program mandated by resolution 986 (1995) remained in effect. The Council renewed its provisions twice during the year (through resolution 1111 of June 4, and resolution 1143 of December 4). In addition, the Council passed resolution 1129 on September 12 to permit Iraq to export the full $2 billion permitted by resolution 1111 within the 180-day period set by the resolution. Iraqi delay in selling oil had threatened to prevent Iraq from selling the full dollar amount permitted by the resolution, which would have seriously delayed the delivery of humanitarian goods to the Iraqi people.

The United States continues to strongly back the UN humanitarian program in Iraq, which performs a vital role in meeting the basic needs of the Iraqi people.

Tenth Emergency Special Session

Following two successive U.S. vetoes in the Security Council of resolutions to condemn Israeli settlement construction, the Arab group, supported by a majority of member states, called on the President of the General Assembly to initiate an emergency special session of the General Assembly under the "Uniting for Peace" formula. (Resolution 377 of November 3, 1950.) The 10th emergency special session would consider the issue of Israeli settlements and specifically the controversial question of construction at a site in Jerusalem called Har Homa. Only nine other such emergency special sessions on a variety of topics have been called since the founding of the United Nations.

The 10th emergency special session of the General Assembly, which opened in April, met four times in 1997. The session passed four resolutions criticizing Israel's settlement policies and urging member states to take actions to discourage these activities. (Resolutions ES-10/1 through 4.) A resolution adopted in November called upon Switzerland as depository of the Geneva Conventions to convene a meeting of experts on the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention in the Occupied Territories. The 10th emergency special session did not conclude its work in 1997 and can be reconvened at the request of any member state.

While the United States made clear its view that construction at the Har Homa site is not helpful to the peace process, the United States opposed these resolutions because they inappropriately interjected the General Assembly into issues the Palestinians and Israelis are dealing with in direct negotiations, and eroded the climate of trust and confidence necessary for those negotiations to succeed.

Africa

Angola

At the outset of 1997, UNAVEM III had already begun drawing down from a peak level of 7,200 personnel, and in his first report of the year (on February 7), the Secretary General anticipated the withdrawal of most of the military force by August. However, other milestones in the peace process, including the full integration of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) officers and soldiers into the Angolan Army and Police, agreement on the future status of UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi, integration of UNITA representatives into the national parliament, and the formation of a Government of National Unity (GURN) containing UNITA ministers, were postponed repeatedly. This, in turn, caused the postponement of the UN plan to convert UNAVEM III into a smaller mission to manage the end game of the Lusaka Protocol peace process.

The GURN was finally inaugurated on April 11, opening the way for the parties to tackle the final requirements of the Lusaka Protocol peace process: extension of government control over the entire country; elimination of hostile media broadcasts, including conversion of UNITA's shortwave radio station into a nonpartisan FM station; and full disarmament of UNITA and its conversion into an unarmed political party. On June 30 the UN Security Council ended UNAVEM III and authorized the UN Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA). MONUA was to be composed primarily of military observers, civilian police, and human rights and political advisers whose main task was to be assisting the Government in reestablishing authority over areas long outside its control. MONUA was given responsibility for the remaining UNAVEM III troops. (Resolution 1118.)

Unfortunately, the escalation of civil war in former Zaire during the first half of 1997 had a destabilizing effect on Angola, and military tensions continued to be reported over wide areas of the country. This situation impelled MONUA to move the August drawdown target date to November, then to February 1998. At year's end, MONUA still retained 1,600 troops.

On August 28 the Security Council imposed sanctions, which were to automatically come into force within 30 days. (Resolution 1127.) In resolution 1130 (September 29) the Council postponed the entry-into-force of the sanctions for an additional 30 days and in resolution 1135 (October 29) took note that the sanctions were automatically going into effect. The Security Council, losing patience with repeated delays in achieving peace process benchmarks, decided that UNITA bore the main responsibility

and, on October 29, allowed sanctions against UNITA to go into effect. The international community was called on to halt air services to UNITA territory and limit the ability of UNITA leadership to travel and represent their movement overseas. These sanctions remained in effect at year's end.

Burundi

The United States, along with the United Nations, continued to support ongoing regional efforts to broker a peaceful settlement of the Burundian conflict. After the current military regime overthrew the democratic government of Sylvestre Ntibantunganya in a coup in 1996, regional states, under the leadership of Julius Nyerere, imposed sanctions and have been attempting to mediate a negotiated resolution. Armed conflict between the Buyoya government and several Hutu-led insurgencies nonetheless continued throughout 1997.

The Security Council issued a presidential statement (S/PRST/1997/32) in May, urging all parties in Burundi to continue to pursue a negotiated settlement and to refrain from actions which would be detrimental to future political dialogue. The Council expressed its concern about the continuing instability in Burundi. It called upon the Government of Burundi to allow people to return to their homes without any hindrance. The Security Council reiterated its support for the efforts of the regional leaders, including former President Nyerere, and welcomed their decision to exempt humanitarian goods from sanctions in order to alleviate the suffering of the people of Burundi.

In July the Secretary General presented a report to the Council on the situation in Burundi, assessing the country's political, security, human rights and humanitarian situation. He noted with encouragement the willingness shown by President Buyoya and his government to cooperate with the international community and with regional governments in an effort to reach a negotiated political settlement. All-party talks came to a standstill when Burundi Government representatives failed to attend a regional summit in Tanzania in August. Nevertheless, a summit took place later in September, reaffirming the participants' determination and commitment to promote a negotiated settlement in Burundi, and their preparedness to adopt additional measures to deal with any obstruction to the negotiating process.

Tensions along the Burundi/Tanzania border increased in September and October after several cross-border incidents. Burundi accused Tanzania of allowing refugee camps near the border to become militarized. In November the Secretary General decided to send a UN fact-finding mission to the Burundi/Tanzania border area to diffuse these tensions. The mission's purpose was to investigate the confrontations occurring along the border, to report on the effect of those incidents on Burundi-Tanzania relations, and to assess what impact refugees in this area were having on regional peace and security. However, at year's end the team had not been granted access to Tanzania.

The United States fully supports the regional peace initiative led by President Nyerere, stressing that a military solution is not feasible and would not lead to a lasting and stable peace. The United States urges all parties to reject a military option and to participate in all-party negotiations.

Central African Republic

Following a series of mutinies in the Central African Republic in 1996, a group of African leaders negotiated the Bangui Agreements in January 1997 and created the Inter-African Mission to Monitor the Implementation of the Bangui Agreements (MISAB), a multinational force with troops from Gabon, Senegal, Mali, Chad, Burkina Faso and Togo, and financial and logistical support from France. In July President Ange Patasse of the Central African Republic and President El Hadj Omar Bongo of Gabon formally requested UN authorization for MISAB. The Security Council unanimously passed Security Council resolution 1125 on August 6 approving the mandate of MISAB for 3 months and authorizing its member states to ensure the security and freedom of movement of their personnel under Chapter VII of the UN Charter. The resolution stipulated that the expenses and logistical support for the force would continue to be borne on a voluntary basis by MISAB's participants. In his explanation of vote, U.S. Permanent Representative Bill Richardson expressed U.S. support for the participants in MISAB, who had provided an important precedent in peacekeeping efforts and continued to play a vital role in securing peace and disarmament in the Central African Republic. On November 6 in resolution 1136, adopted unanimously, the Security Council renewed its authorization of MISAB under the same terms for an additional 3 months.

Democratic Republic of the Congo/Zaire

The Security Council continued to closely monitor the situation in the Great Lakes area throughout 1997. Fighting between the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo/Zaire (ADFL) and the then government began in October 1996 and intensified in the first half of 1997. By May 17 the ADFL had toppled the regime of President Mobutu and taken power, renaming Zaire the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The United States and the Security Council supported efforts by the UN/Organization of African Unity's Special Representative Mohamed Sahnoun to negotiate a peaceful settlement of the Zaire/Congo crisis.

The Security Council issued several presidential statements expressing its grave concern about the deteriorating situation in the Great Lakes region. The first statement on February 7 called for an end to hostilities and the withdrawal of all external forces from the region. It also urged all parties to allow humanitarian agencies and organizations access to eastern Zaire in order to provide assistance to refugees and displaced persons. Moreover, the Security Council called upon all states to refrain from any act that would exacerbate the situation and reaffirmed the importance of holding an international conference on peace, security and development in the Great Lakes region.

On February 18 the Security Council adopted resolution 1097 endorsing a five-point peace plan for eastern Zaire, which called for an immediate cessation of hostilities; withdrawal of all external forces; reaffirmation of respect for the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of states of the Great Lakes region; protection and security for all refugees and displaced persons and facilitation of access to humanitarian assistance; and rapid and peaceful settlement of the crisis through dialogue, the electoral process and the convening of an international conference. The resolution also called on all governments and parties concerned to cooperate with the joint UN/OAU Special Representative for the Great Lakes region to achieve lasting peace in the area.

Presidential statements issued by the Security Council on March 7, April 4 and April 24 reiterated the Security Council's support for the five-point peace plan. The Security Council called upon the ADFL to publicly declare its acceptance of resolution 1097 and called upon the Government of Zaire to facilitate the implementation of this plan. It also expressed concern about the effect the continued fighting had on refugees and civilians of the region.

The presidential statements on April 24 and April 30 further called upon the Government of Zaire and the ADFL to engage seriously and fully in the search for a speedy political solution, especially the holding of democratic and free elections with universal participation. The April 30 presidential statement also noted the commitment by the leader of the ADFL to allow the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies access to refugees in eastern Zaire, and his commitment to be flexible regarding the duration of the repatriation operation.

The United States strongly supported resolution 1097 and believed that swift adoption of the five-point peace plan would bolster UN/OAU Special Representative Sahnoun in his negotiating efforts. However, these efforts were overtaken by the rapid evolution of the ADFL's military position and the corresponding disintegration of the Mobutu regime.

Liberia

The activities of the UN Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) officially ended on September 30, 1997, following the achievement of the mission's key objectives. Initially authorized in September 1993, UNOMIL's mission was to monitor compliance with the Liberian peace agreements; verify the disarmament and oversee the demobilization of Liberia's various factional armies; and observe and monitor the election process. For its part, the United States continued in 1997, as it has done since 1993, to support UNOMIL's objectives, specifically its efforts to assist the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Military Observer Group (ECOMOG) implement peace accords to end the civil war in Liberia.

Following more than a year of setbacks, including a return to violence, and limited progress in the peace process, by late 1996 the warring factions had agreed to another cease-fire and a new implementation schedule

for the 1995 Abuja Accord. According to this revised plan, national elections would be held by May 30, 1997, with a subsequent drawdown of military observers. Although the disarmament process proceeded apace, with ECOMOG disarming more than 20,000 fighters by early February, preparations for national elections took longer than anticipated—forcing their postponement until July 19, followed by the inauguration of a new Liberian government on August 2.

On November 27, 1996, the Security Council, by resolution 1083, extended UNOMIL's mandate until March 31, 1997. On March 27 the mandate was again extended for 3 months (Resolution 1100) to cover the proposed May elections. However, with the elections postponed until July, the Security Council on June 27 once more extended the operation until September 30 (Resolution 1116), with the expectation that UNOMIL would terminate by that date. By early September, in fact, UNOMIL had essentially completed its mandate.

A principal UNOMIL responsibility during its last months centered on providing logistical and technical support for the July 19 national elections. UNOMIL played a key role in ensuring that the elections were free and transparent. Shortly after the August 2 inauguration of President Charles Taylor's government, UNOMIL began to withdraw its personnel. Most of the 92 military observers departed country by mid-September; the remainder left prior to the September 30 mission expiration date.

Libya

During 1997 the Security Council continued to review sanctions adopted against Libya in resolution 748 (1992) every 120 days. Given Libya's noncompliance with requirements imposed by this and resolutions 731 and 883, the Council decided each time that sanctions should remain in effect without change. The United States, along with the United Kingdom and France, maintained their joint position that there would be no compromise on the demands of justice and that Libya would have to comply fully with its obligations. At the November sanctions review, France circulated a letter from its investigative judge noting that, *inter alia*, it had indicted six Libyans for a trial in absentia in connection with the bombing of UTA Flight 772.

In response to Libya's claims that the two Pan Am suspects could not get a fair trial in Scotland, the Secretary General asked a group of independent international jurists to inspect the Scottish judicial system. Their conclusion, presented in a report to the Security Council by the Secretary General, was that "the accused would receive a fair trial under the Scottish justice system. Their rights during the pretrial, trial and post-trial proceedings would be protected in accordance with international standards."

Libya continued during 1997 to claim that UN sanctions prevented its people from receiving proper medical care and hindered Libyan pilgrims in performing the Muslim hajj. However, the sanctions regime has always permitted exceptions to the air embargo for approved medical evacuation flights, whose numbers, in fact, have increased each year since sanctions

were imposed. With regard to Libyan pilgrims, the Council continued to approve, for the third straight year, direct hajj flights from Libya to Saudi Arabia aboard third country aircraft. Approval of flights for these purposes continued to have strong U.S. backing.

Sierra Leone

Throughout 1997 the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) took the lead in seeking a solution to Sierra Leone's ongoing crisis, supported by the UN Security Council and the United States. In January the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations recommended that a "neutral monitoring force" consisting of 60 military observers, protected by 720 armed peacekeeping troops, deploy to Sierra Leone to monitor the implementation of the 1996 Abidjan Accord between the democratically elected government of President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) insurgency. The RUF, however, rejected some of the UN's preconditions for the deployment of a peacekeeping operation. On May 25 a coalition of junior army officers seized power, then joined forces with the insurgency. The United States supported UN Security Council presidential statements of May 27, July 11, and August 6, which condemned the coup and called for the peaceful restoration of President Kabbah and the constitutional order.

On October 8 the United States joined a unanimous Security Council vote to approve resolution 1132, which imposed sanctions on the sale of arms and petroleum products to Sierra Leone, and on travel by members of the military junta. Resolution 1132 authorized ECOWAS, which had already imposed more comprehensive regional sanctions, to enforce the UN sanctions. On October 23 ECOWAS negotiated a framework agreement with the junta that provided for a cease-fire, disarmament and demobilization of all combatants and the return of President Kabbah to office within 6 months. The agreement called for the ECOWAS Military Observer Group (ECOMOG), assisted by UN military observers, to implement demobilization. A November 14 Security Council presidential statement, supported by the United States, welcomed the agreement and the efforts of ECOWAS to seek a peaceful settlement of the crisis. A UN assessment team made preparations to travel to Sierra Leone January 10–17, 1998, and the special envoy sought to negotiate the modalities for implementing the agreement. However, the junta imposed new demands, and the negotiation process had stalled completely by year's end.

Western Sahara

During 1997 the United States and the Security Council continued to support the efforts of the Secretary General to resolve the long-standing dispute in the Western Sahara between the Government of Morocco and POLISARIO. In March the Secretary General appointed former U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker III as his Personal Envoy for the Western Sahara to see whether the UN's settlement plan could be implemented and, if not, whether the parties would be amenable to any other ideas for a solution. The settlement plan had been stalled since 1995 after a dispute

over the process of identifying prospective Sahrawi voters eligible to participate in a referendum on self-determination.

After a round of consultations in regional capitals, Personal Envoy Baker determined that the parties wished to proceed only on the basis of the settlement plan. During the course of four separate rounds of talks with the parties that took place in London and Lisbon (which included Algeria and Mauritania as observers), Personal Envoy Baker was able to obtain agreement on key issues that had stalled the settlement plan, including voter identification, confinement of Moroccan and POLISARIO forces during the transitional period leading up to the referendum, and the release of POWs and Sahrawi political prisoners and detainees. At a final round of direct talks that took place in Houston September 14–16, Mr. Baker also got the parties to agree to a code of conduct for the referendum campaign and on a declaration of the parties relating to the authority of the United Nations during the transitional period.

On May 22 the Security Council voted to extend the mandate of the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) for another 180 days, until September 30. (Resolution 1108.) On September 29, following adoption of the Houston Accords, the Council passed a second technical rollover resolution extending MINURSO's mandate until October 20, in accordance with a recommendation of the Secretary General. The mandate was extended for a full 180-day period (until April 20, 1998) by Council resolution 1133 of October 20, 1997. Resolution 1133 authorized MINURSO to increase its size, as recommended by the Secretary General, in order to proceed with its voter identification tasks. Voter identification formally resumed on December 3. Later that month, the Secretary General named retired U.S. Ambassador Charles Dunbar as his new Special Representative for the Western Sahara to oversee implementation of the Houston Accords and the settlement plan.

Following the adoption of resolution 1133, U.S. Permanent Representative Bill Richardson issued a statement noting that

> . . . the U.S. Government fully supported Jim Baker's mediation effort, and we will fully support the UN's effort to build on Baker's negotiating success and bring the settlement plan to a successful conclusion. However, as we have said before, our support of MINURSO depends on the continuing ability of the parties to achieve progress. Unless significant progress can be maintained, the United States cannot support the continued renewal of MINURSO in its present form.

Western Hemisphere

Guatemala

The Security Council and the General Assembly passed several resolutions regarding Central America. The peace process in Guatemala again received significant attention. The United States strongly supports efforts to assist the Guatemalan Government in implementing the peace agreement signed on December 29, 1996, ending that country's 36-year internal struggle. On January 20, 1997, on the recommendation of the Secretary

General, the Security Council unanimously authorized the deployment of 155 military observers to Guatemala for 3 months to verify the cease-fire, separation of forces, and disarmament and demobilization of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG). (Resolution 1094.) The deployment came after China's earlier veto of a similar resolution, citing Guatemala's invitation of Taiwanese officials to attend the signing of the overall peace accord. An exchange of letters between the permanent representatives of Guatemala and China resolved the dispute.

The UN Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) continued to verify compliance with the agreements signed between the Government of Guatemala and the URNG. The General Assembly acted twice in 1997 to extend MINUGUA's mandate. The Mission is now authorized to operate until December 31, 1998. (Resolutions 51/198 B and 52/175.)

MINUGUA maintained eight regional offices and six subregional offices providing it with a presence throughout the country. MINUGUA conducted prompt, thorough and impartial investigations into alleged human rights abuses, worked to improve the administration of justice and aided in opening access to government for indigenous people. In the year since the signing of the peace agreements, positive trends observed in the country have been consolidated. There has been an increase in political freedom. The URNG is in the process of transforming itself into a political party. Human rights abuses have continued to decline. However, common crime and violence remained a significant problem.

Haiti

On July 30 the Security Council, acting upon the request of the President of Haiti, established the UN Transition Mission in Haiti (UNTMIH) with a single 4-month mandate until November 30. (Resolution 1123.) The new mission was composed of up to 250 civilian police and 50 military personnel to form the headquarters of a security element and 1,150 voluntary troops from Canada and Pakistan. The United States continued to fund the latter through a special trust fund established by the United Nations. UNTMIH assisted the Government of Haiti by supporting and contributing to the professionalization of the Haitian National Police (HNP).

The July 31 closing of the UN Support Mission in Haiti, coupled with the creation of UNTMIH, marked a reduction in the international military presence in Haiti and the recognition of a greater ability on the part of the Haitian Government to maintain a secure and stable environment. Civilian police officers from the United States, Argentina, Benin, Canada, France, India, Mali, Niger, Pakistan, Senegal, Togo and Tunisia participated in UNTMIH.

On November 28 the Security Council established the UN Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (MIPONUH). The closing of UNTMIH ended the year-long transition from an international military presence to a civilian operation. Mandated to continue to support and contribute to the professionalization of the HNP, MIPONUH was authorized up to 300 civilian

police. (Resolution 1141.) MIPONUH does not have a military element. MIPONUH's mandate expires on November 30, 1998.

On December 15 the General Assembly debated a resolution cosponsored by the United States that renews and extends the mandate of the UN component of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH) until December 31, 1998. MICIVIH supports the promotion and protection of human rights. It also provides reporting, technical assistance and expert recommendations that have enhanced the effectiveness of the HNP and broader Haitian justice system. MICIVIH operates under a dual mandate from the United Nations and the Organization of American States. The General Assembly will take action on the resolution after it has reviewed its budgetary implications.

During 1997 the Haitian Government made progress toward the further consolidation of democracy. The withdrawal of the remaining international military presence was a concrete sign of that progress. However, a political stalemate between the president and parliament that has lasted more than 6 months has hampered progress towards economic reform and sustained growth. The United States remains deeply committed to achieving progress in Haiti and provided over $100 million in bilateral assistance in 1997 as well contributions to the international missions in Haiti.

Other Areas

Afghanistan

The UN General Assembly created a UN special mission to Afghanistan in March 1994. The mission was initially headed by former Tunisian foreign minister Mahmoud Mestiri, who was replaced by German diplomat Norbert Holl in June 1996. Holl continued his work with the mission in 1997, before stepping down in December. He has yet to be replaced.

The Secretary General appointed former Algerian foreign minister Lakhdar Brahimi as Special Representative for Afghanistan in July 1997. Brahimi conducted a comprehensive review of UN peacemaking activities in Afghanistan. After travel to 13 countries and meetings with the Afghan factions, he returned to New York and convoked meetings with representatives of the six nations bordering Afghanistan (China, Pakistan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan) plus the United States and Russia. His objective was to look at ways to apply joint pressure on the Afghan parties to promulgate a cease-fire and begin negotiations toward a broad-based, representative, multiethnic government. This "6 plus 2" group met three times in 1997.

The Security Council issued a presidential statement on Afghanistan December 16, which reiterated the Council's grave concern about the continued military confrontation and deplored the unwillingness of the warring factions to lay down their arms. The statement also stressed that the Afghan conflict has no military solution and that the primary responsibility for finding a peaceful settlement lies with the Afghan parties themselves.

The General Assembly, in plenary session in December, adopted a resolution which renewed the mandate of the UN special mission and expressed concern about the political, economic and human rights situation in Afghanistan. The United States joined consensus on the resolution. (Resolution 52/145.)

Albania

The collapse of pyramid schemes in Albania in early 1997 destroyed the life savings of a large portion of the Albanian population and led to an outbreak of violence and a breakdown of central government authority that virtually tore the country apart and threatened to destabilize the surrounding region. Thousands of refugees left Albania for neighboring countries, particularly Italy. On March 13 the Security Council issued a presidential statement expressing the Council's deep concern about the deteriorating situation in Albania and urged all concerned to refrain from hostilities and acts of violence and to cooperate with diplomatic efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the crisis.

On March 28 the Security Council adopted resolution 1101 by a vote of 14 (U.S.) to 0, with 1 abstention (China), which authorized member states to establish a multinational protection force for Albania. The mandate of the mission was to facilitate the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance, protect international relief workers and help create a secure environment in which elections could be held. The mandate was originally limited to 3 months, and participating states voluntarily bore the costs of the operation. On June 19 the Security Council passed resolution 1114, by a vote of 14 (U.S.) to 0, with 1 abstention (China). It extended the mandate of the protection force for another 45 days to maintain a secure environment during and after parliamentary elections scheduled for June 29. The elections were held successfully and the force withdrew from Albania in August after the establishment of relative stability.

Cyprus

The UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was created in March 1964, to help end violence between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities. Since the *de facto* division of the island in 1974, UNFICYP has also served as a buffer force supervising the cease-fire between Turkish and Turkish-Cypriot forces on one side and the Greek Cypriot National Guard and Greek troops on the other.

As of December 31, 1997, there were 1,217 military personnel assigned to UNFICYP, and 35 civilian police. No U.S. personnel participate. The most significant troop contributors are Argentina, Austria, Hungary, Ireland and the United Kingdom. Australia and Ireland provide the civilian police contingent.

On June 27 the UN Security Council (Resolution 1117) extended UNFICYP's mandate until December 31, 1997. On December 23 the mandate was extended again to June 30, 1998. (Resolution 1146.)

Since June 1993 UN assessments have been used to pay only for the portion of UNFICYP's costs not covered by voluntary contributions. Together, Greece and Cyprus make voluntary contributions that cover almost half of the annual cost of UNFICYP.

Both resolutions 1117 and 1146 expressed concern about the lack of progress toward a settlement of the Cyprus problem. There was dialogue, but only small advances toward settlement during the year. The Secretary General initiated a series of face-to-face meetings between Cypriot President Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader Denktash, overseen by his Special Advisor Diego Cordovez. The first meeting, at Troutbeck, New York, on July 9–13 aimed at finding a comprehensive solution to the Cyprus problem. The leaders held a second meeting in the series at Glion-Sur-Montreux on August 11–14, without significant progress. Further talks were expected to resume in March 1998, after the Cypriot presidential elections. Aside from this UN-led search for a comprehensive solution, the leaders met in Cyprus on July 31 with UN Chief of Mission Gustave Feissel present to discuss humanitarian issues and agreed to exchange data on missing persons from the 1974 conflict and from prior intercommunal violence. Later, acting on a U.S. initiative, the two leaders held a meeting September 26 in Cyprus, again with Mr. Feissel present, to discuss security issues.

The United States supports UNFICYP as a means of preventing an outbreak of conflict on Cyprus that could draw NATO allies Turkey and Greece into war, thus endangering both peace in the immediate area and regional stability. The United States supports negotiations toward a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation.

Georgia

Initially established in 1993, the UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) was expanded in July 1994 in size (to 136 military observers) and scope—charged with monitoring the implementation of the May 1994 cease-fire agreement between the Government of Georgia and Abkhaz separatists and with observing the Russian-led Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) peacekeeping force. Four U.S. military observers participated in UNOMIG in 1997, along with others from 22 countries.

On July 12, 1996, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1065, extending UNOMIG's mandate until January 31, 1997. Subsequently, on January 30, 1997, the Security Council voted to extend the mandate (Resolution 1096) for 6 months to July 31, 1997; in July, the Security Council again renewed the mandate (Resolution 1124) for an additional 6 months until January 31, 1998, "subject to review in the event of any changes that may be made in the mandate of the CIS peacekeeping force."

During 1997 the parties for the most part continued to comply with the cease-fire, but there was little movement on the political front. Despite the vigorous efforts of the United Nations and the "friends of Georgia," little progress was achieved in resolving such key issues as the future political

status of Abkhazia and the return of refugees. However, a UN-sponsored conference in November served to revitalize the negotiating process, resulting in greater cooperation and a number of specific proposals to address practical issues dividing the parties.

Security, specifically the safety of UNOMIG personnel, remained a serious consideration throughout the year. The deployment of 13 mine-protected vehicles in March enabled UNOMIG to resume its patrols of the Gali security zone which separates the Georgian and Abkhaz sides. A brief hostage-taking incident in late September, involving the seizure of three UNOMIG military observers by unknown assailants, heightened security concerns. The United Nations responded by sending an investigative mission to the region in November and by adopting additional measures to safeguard mission personnel.

Tajikistan

Established in December 1994, the UN Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) is charged with monitoring the implementation of the November 1994 cease-fire agreement between the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition. Despite a breakdown in the cease-fire in 1996, by year's end the cease-fire was again in effect and serious political negotiations had begun. The active engagement of UNMOT leadership in subsequent peace talks contributed to the signing of a peace accord between the two sides on June 27, 1997.

On December 13, 1996, the Security Council adopted resolution 1089 extending UNMOT's mandate until March 15, 1997, subject to the proviso that the parties demonstrate their commitment to an effective cease-fire and to national reconciliation. Since the cease-fire held throughout the year, UNMOT's mandate was repeatedly renewed. Through resolution 1099 the Security Council on March 14 extended UNMOT's mandate to June 15. Resolution 1113 of June 12 renewed the mandate unchanged until September 15 and in September, the Security Council opted, by resolution 1128, to roll over the existing mandate until November 15, at which time—due to changed circumstances in Tajikistan—an expanded mandate was approved by resolution 1138 for a period ending May 15, 1998.

Notwithstanding some setbacks, there was considerable progress on the political front during 1997. In February the government and opposition agreed on a Charter of National Reconciliation. On March 8 the sides concluded a military protocol aimed at merging opposition forces into the government's military and security structures. By late May, the last of the requisite accords in the "General Peace Agreement" had been negotiated, paving the way for the parties to sign the agreement in Moscow on June 27.

The agreement called for an adjustment in UNMOT's mandate and size to enable the mission to monitor and support implementation of the peace accords. However, uncertain conditions on the ground led the Security Council to delay consideration of UNMOT mandate expansion until November, when both sides committed themselves to cooperate in ensur-

ing UNMOT's security. The expanded UNMOT mandate calls for 120 military observers, but for most of 1997 the operation consisted of approximately 45 from 8 countries. By December 31 there were 60 observers participating in the mission. The United States did not contribute personnel to the operation.

The security situation in Tajikistan remained a source of concern throughout 1997. In early February an armed rogue group took hostage 15 persons from UNMOT and other international agencies, prompting a major drawdown of UNMOT. The incident ended on February 17 with the release of all hostages and the arrest of key perpetrators. Subsequently, UN personnel were not specifically targeted, but violence continued to be prevalent in Dushanbe, culminating in the August outbreak of intrafactional fighting among groups nominally aligned with the government. The last significant incident of the year involved the November kidnapping of a French couple working for an NGO in Dushanbe. The kidnappers were eventually caught—and the gang leader killed—but one of the victims died in the rescue attempt.

Since September the Commission on National Reconciliation, set in motion by the peace agreement, has been actively implementing various aspects of the peace accords (especially in the area of refugee repatriation). The Commission has set for itself an ambitious work plan in hopes of holding national elections in late 1998.

The Former Yugoslavia

The United States in 1997 continued its leadership in the Security Council concerning the former Yugoslavia, supporting UN objectives in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). Many of the Council actions were in support of implementation of the 1995 U.S.-sponsored peace talks in Dayton, Ohio, which led to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Security Council paid very close attention to the operation of the UN Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) established in 1996 in resolution 1037. UNTAES' mission was to oversee the transition of the region from local Serb to Croatian Government control. The original mandate was for a period of 1 year, with an option to extend for 1 additional year, until January 15, 1998. The Council in a presidential statement dated January 31, 1997, condemned an incident in Vukovar that resulted in the death of an UNTAES peacekeeper and injuries to other UNTAES personnel. At the same time, it welcomed a letter from the Government of Croatia making commitments concerning the rights of the local Serb population. This letter set the stage for further Council actions later in the year. It called upon the Government of Croatia to ensure that all its citizens were treated as equals regardless of their ethnicity and to facilitate progress on the return of Croatian Serb displaced persons and refugees to other areas. In a presidential statement issued on March 7, the Council agreed to the scheduling

of municipal elections in April and called upon the Serb community to participate fully in those elections. These elections were conducted successfully, although it took several months for the Government of Croatia to provide the necessary assistance to make the local governmental bodies functional. The Council issued a presidential statement on May 8 that welcomed this positive development but also called on the Government to ensure rapid implementation of the results of the elections.

Resolution 1120, dated July 14, 1997, extended the mandate of UNTAES for a 6-month period until January 15, 1998. The resolution endorsed a plan for the gradual devolution of executive responsibility for civil administration in the region to the Republic of Croatia and the drawdown of the UNTAES military component. The drawdown of the military component to 720 troops was accomplished by November 15.

The Council issued two presidential statements on September 18 and October 20 concerning Croatian compliance with its obligations in fulfilling conditions and tasks key to the final transfer of executive authority to the Republic of Croatia. Resolution 1145 of December 19 noted the termination of the UNTAES mandate on January 15, 1998, and established, effective January 16, 1998, a support group of 180 civilian police monitors, for a single period of 9 months to continue to monitor the performance of the Croatian police in the Danube region.

In the January 1996 resolution 1038 the Council authorized 28 UN military observers previously attached to the UN Confidence Restoration Organization in Croatia (UNCRO) to continue their activities in the Prevlaka peninsula area of Croatia as members of a new operation, the UN Military Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP). Resolution 1093 of January 14 authorized the UN military observers to continue monitoring the demilitarization of the Prevlaka peninsula until July 15. It called upon the parties to abide by their mutual commitments and to cease and refrain from all violations of the demilitarization zone and from military or other activities which may increase tension in the region. The Security Council issued a presidential statement on April 25, which expressed disappointment at the general lack of improvement in the situation in Prevlaka and concern over continuing violations of the demilitarization regime. Resolution 1119 of July 14 extended the mandate of the UN military observers for a further 6-month period until January 15, 1998.

Resolution 1088 of 1996 authorized the establishment, in coordination with NATO, of the multinational Stabilization Force (SFOR) to carry out the key functions of its predecessor, the Implementation Force (IFOR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Resolution 1088 also extended the mandate of the UN Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH), which includes the International Police Task Force (IPTF) and its civilian support structure. The mandate for UNMIBH and IPTF was set to expire on December 21 unless extended by the Security Council.

On March 11 the Council issued a presidential statement that condemned violence in West Mostar and in particular the involvement by

West Mostar police and demanded the immediate implementation of the conclusions of an IPTF report on the incident. Resolution 1103, adopted unanimously on March 31, authorized an increase in the size of UNMIBH by 186 police and 11 civilian personnel to implement recommendations made by the Secretary General concerning the role of the UN IPTF in Brcko. IPTF's size was again increased by 120 police personnel in May (Resolution 1107) to implement recommendations of the Peace Implementation Council meeting held in London December 4–5, 1996.

The Security Council, in resolution 1112 adopted on June 12, welcomed the conclusions of the Ministerial Meeting of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council held in Sintra, Portugal, on May 30. The Council agreed to the appointment of Mr. Carlos Westendorp as High Representative to succeed Carl Bildt. On September 17 a helicopter crash in Bosnia resulted in the deaths of 12 persons attached to the Office of the High Representative for Bosnia, the IPTF and other organizations. The Security Council included a tribute to those who lost their lives in this tragic accident when UNMIBH's mandate was extended in December for an additional 6 months (Resolution 1144) until June 21, 1998.

The UN Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP), created in March 1995 as one of the successors to the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR), continued to monitor successfully the situation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. On April 9, in light of the instability in Albania, the Security Council in resolution 1105 suspended the reduction of the military component of UNPREDEP approved in resolution 1082 of November 1996 until the end of May 1997. Resolution 1110 of May 28 extended the mandate of UNPREDEP until November 30, and approved the start, as of October 1, of a 2-month phased reduction of the military component by 300.

The mandate renewal discussions in November and December 1997 were heated, with Russia again seeking the termination of the operation. A technical rollover was required until consensus was reached on extending UNPREDEP's mandate. (Resolution 1140.) On December 4 the Council unanimously agreed to extend UNPREDEP's mandate for a final period ending August 31, 1998. (Resolution 1142.) The Council called for the withdrawal of the UN military component immediately thereafter and asked the Secretary General to report by June 1, 1998. The report was to focus on the modalities for termination of UNPREDEP and on recommendations on the type of international presence that would be most appropriate for the former Yugoslavia Republic of Macedonia after August 31, 1998.

Resolution 1104 of April 8 and resolution 1126 of August 27 concerned appointments of judges to the ICTY. These resolutions and all others cited above were adopted unanimously by the Council.

Special Political Issue

International Peace and Security

In 1997 the U.S. Government continued to utilize the criteria established in Presidential Decision Directive 25 in making decisions on establishment of new UN peacekeeping operations. The PDD-25 review of costs, size, risk, mandate and exit strategies was a key consideration in curbing premature peacekeeping operations in Sierra Leone, Congo-Brazzaville and the Central African Republic. UN peacekeeping missions continued to decline in number and size. As of December 31, 1997, there were only 14,879 UN peacekeepers worldwide, down from 24,919 at the same time the previous year. Liberia and Guatemala provided the year's most significant success stories. The UN Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL), working in close cooperation with the West African Military Observer Group (ECOMOG), helped provide the environment for free and fair presidential elections that brought an end to a decade of fighting in that country. UNOMIL was terminated in September. In Guatemala a small UN observer group attached to the UN Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) demobilized and helped reintegrate into society a guerrilla force which had operated for almost 40 years. The military observer group completed its mission in 3 months and terminated in May 1997.

Significant progress was made in several other regions. In Eastern Slavonia, the UNTAES successfully facilitated the peaceful reintegration of this region into Croatia and defused a potential flashpoint between Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). UNTAES will be terminated on January 15, 1998, and be succeeded by a much smaller civilian police (CIVPOL) operation. The UN Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) is assisting the government and principal opposition movement in implementing the peace agreement ending their civil war. In Angola the UN Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA) is supervising the final phases of implementation of the Lusaka Protocol. Finally, in Haiti all military forces have been withdrawn, leaving only a small civilian police operation behind.

U.S. efforts to improve UN peacekeeping in the area of civilian police operations made considerable progress. In both Haiti (UNTMIH) and Eastern Slavonia (UNTAES) the military mandates ended and operations continued with only a civilian police component. New ground was broken in Haiti (MIPONUH) when a Special Protection Unit (SPU) was deployed for the first time to provide the necessary backup to the civilian police (CIVPOL) in the absence of the military. At U.S. urging, the United Nations is continuing to address recruitment, training, planning and operations management for CIVPOL.

In the wake of the September 1997 kidnapping of a UN military observer in the Republic of Georgia, the United Nations closely scrutinized the security conditions within the UNOMIG operational area and the force protection available to assigned UN military observers. At the urging of the U.S. Government, additional force protection measures were

implemented. The United Nations also reviewed force protection issues in several other operations in an effort to ensure adequate security.

In 1997 the U.S. Government announced its "Demining 2010 Initiative." The Demining 2010 Initiative is a call for global commitment and cooperation to eliminate landmines threatening civilian populations worldwide by the year 2010. It further aims to increase public and private resources devoted to demining worldwide to $1 billion per year.

During 1997 the U.S. Government continued to provide support to UN humanitarian demining in Angola and Afghanistan. In Angola the United States provided $2.655 million to the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs to support UN demining efforts. The United States provided a total $3 million to the UN Office of the Coordinator of Humanitarian Assistance (UNOCHA) to support demining efforts in Afghanistan. In addition to the financial support to UN demining activities, the United States conducted demining activities in 11 other countries.

Disarmament Issues

Disarmament Commission

As mandated by the UN General Assembly, the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) provides a forum for deliberation on disarmament issues when the Assembly is not in session. The UNDC, traditionally operating by consensus, considers and makes recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament, and follows up on the relevant decisions and recommendations of the General Assembly and special sessions devoted to disarmament. The 1997 UNDC met April 21–May 12 and formed working groups to consider three agenda items, "Nuclear-weapon-free zones and the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the states of the region concerned," "The fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (SSOD-IV)," and "Guidelines on conventional Arms Control/Limitation and Disarmament with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45."

SSOD-IV was carried over from the previous year's UNDC, and the others were new agenda items. Since items normally remain on the UNDC agenda for 3 years, the Commission did not produce any substantive reports in 1997. SSOD-IV will be on the agenda for the third and final time in 1998.

During the discussion of SSOD-IV, the United States emphasized that another special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament could be useful only if its agenda were agreed to by consensus and if there was a reasonable expectation that it could produce results. No agreement on the objectives or agenda was reached, thereby preventing a date from being set for the meeting and its preparatory conference(s). The working group on nuclear-weapon-free zones began consideration of guidelines for the establishment of such zones. In this discussion, the United States reiterated its criteria for recognizing them. The discussion in the working

group on conventional arms control focused on guidelines for disarmament in peacekeeping operations in the aftermath of conflict.

Conference on Disarmament

The Conference on Disarmament (CD) is the single global multilateral arms control negotiating forum of the international community. Despite the fact that the CD is financed through the UN scale of assessments and submits a report to the General Assembly annually, it is an autonomous organization that makes all of its decisions by consensus. The 61 member states are divided into three geopolitical groupings—Western Group, Eastern Group and Non-Aligned Group—and China as an independent member. In addition, 49 nonmember states were granted observer status and 20 of these applied for membership in 1997. The CD met three times in 1997 for a total of 24 weeks.

The CD was unable to agree to any substantive work in 1997 and for the first time in its history failed to establish any *ad hoc* committees (single-issue subfora). The United States was unsuccessful in pressing for the CD to establish *ad hoc* committees to negotiate treaties banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear explosives and banning the use, production, transfer and stockpiling of antipersonnel landmines (APL). The CD did appoint a special coordinator to conduct consultations with member states on APL. The United States viewed the appointment of a special coordinator as an interim step on the way to establishment of an *ad hoc* committee on APL. The CD also appointed special coordinators on improved and effective functioning, membership expansion and the agenda.

Demands for negotiations on the elimination of nuclear weapons in a time-bound framework are rejected by the United States, and others. This is due in part because reductions of nuclear weapons are already taking place at an accelerated pace. No international agreements have been negotiated or implemented to promote reductions in conventional weapons, although hundreds of thousands of lives have been lost in conflicts. Further, it is the view of many in the disarmament area that reductions cannot take place according to an artificially imposed schedule.

First Committee

The 1997 General Assembly First Committee convened on October 13 and continued consideration of disarmament and international security items through November 17. The Committee considered 44 resolutions and two decisions, 23 of which were adopted by consensus. The United States voted "yes" or joined consensus on 30, voted "no" on 9, and abstained on 5. The United States did not participate in the vote on disarmament and development. The Chairman's First Committee rationalization decision was withdrawn at his request before it could be acted on. The agenda item remains open, however, and further discussion of rationalization may occur before the 52nd UN General Assembly adjourns in September 1998.

In the wake of the negotiation of the Ottawa Convention banning antipersonnel landmines, that subject proved the most controversial during the 1997 First Committee session. The Committee ultimately adopted three resolutions related to antipersonnel landmines: one supporting the Ottawa Convention (127 to 0, with 19 (U.S.) abstentions), one supporting the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) (the amended second protocol of which places restrictions on landmines) by consensus, and one urging work in the Conference on Disarmament on antipersonnel landmines (121 (U.S.) to 2, with 19 abstentions). The United States cosponsored the CCW resolution and was a cosponsor and key proponent of the CD resolution. Because the United States was unable to sign the Ottawa Convention, it abstained on the resolution urging signature of the convention.

The United States introduced two resolutions, one on compliance with arms control agreements (which passed by consensus) and one introduced jointly with Russia on bilateral nuclear arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament. The resolution on bilateral nuclear arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament was adopted 147 (U.S.) to 0, with 8 abstentions.

Additionally, the largely noncontentious session adopted consensus resolutions on the Chemical Weapons Convention and the fourth special session on disarmament. However, for the fifth consecutive year, the First Committee failed to take action on a fissile material cutoff resolution.

Other Issues

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) was formed in 1958 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1348 (XIII), which was submitted by the United States and 19 other states. The resolution established the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and laid the foundation for COPUOS as the only standing body of the General Assembly to consider international cooperation in the exploration of outer space. The Committee has been responsible for the elaboration and adoption by consensus of five multilateral treaties governing space activities and two sets of nonbinding principles concerning the use of nuclear power sources in outer space and remote sensing of the Earth from space. These treaties form the basis for international law in the use and exploration of outer space.

Resolution 52/56, "International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space," was adopted without a vote by the General Assembly. The resolution renewed the mandate of the Committee and set the program of work for the COPUOS and its Legal and Scientific and Technical Subcommittees. The UN General Assembly endorsed a series of reform measures proposed by the United States and implemented by COPOUS, which will save close to $1 million per year in conference services. COPUOS and the subcommittees continued their work on questions relating to international cooperation in areas such as addressing the problem of orbital

space debris, meteorology, astronomy and astrophysics, space transportation, human space flight, planetary exploration and environmental monitoring. The General Assembly also agreed that a special session of COPUOS, open to all members of the United Nations, private industry and nongovernmental organizations, should be convened at the UN Office at Vienna in July 1999.

Law of the Sea

The 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (LOS Convention) entered into force on November 16, 1994. Partly to meet U.S. concerns, a supplementary "Agreement Relating to the Implementation of Part XI" (Deep Seabed Mining) was negotiated in 1994, and entered into force on July 28, 1996. As of the end of 1997, a total of 122 states had ratified the convention, and 86 states had ratified the agreement.

The United States supports the LOS Convention as modified by the 1994 agreement and is applying it on a provisional basis, in accordance with its terms. Provisional application will terminate in November 1998. The administration is working to obtain the necessary advice and consent of the Senate to permit accession to the convention. Taken together, the convention and the agreement meet a basic and long-standing objective of U.S. oceans policy: conclusion of a comprehensive Law of the Sea Convention that will be respected by all nations.

The International Seabed Authority (ISA) held its third meeting in two separate sessions in 1997. All four of its organs—Assembly, Council, Legal and Technical Commission, and Finance Committee—met during the sessions. The ISA Legal and Technical Commission continued its review of a draft mining code and model contract that incorporated many of the previous comments by the United States. The Council also approved the work plans of the seven pioneer LOS investors in deep sea mining in a manner that established important precedents toward confidentiality of investor data and nondiscriminatory treatment for future applicants, including U.S. consortia.

The International Tribunal for Law of the Sea, also a LOS body, was established in Hamburg, Germany. The United States, however, has been unable to field a candidate or participate in the election of judges for the Tribunal because it is not a party to the convention. Three sessions of the Tribunal met in 1997 and reached conclusions on rules dealing with the internal organization of the Tribunal and on most of the provisions regarding the proceedings in disputes. The Tribunal took up its first case in 1997.

Non-Self-Governing Territories

Chapter XI of the UN Charter sets forth responsibilities of states for the "administration of territories whose peoples have not yet attained a full measure of self-government." These "non-self-governing territories" are considered annually by the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Committee of 24, or C–24) and by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Com-

mittee). The C–24 makes suggestions and recommendations to the Fourth Committee regarding implementation of UN General Assembly resolution 1514 of 1960 (Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples), specific issues affecting the decolonization process and the activities of specialized agencies and other UN bodies in those territories.

An informal dialogue between certain administering powers (U.S., U.K.) and the Chairman of the Fourth Committee was initiated in 1996 in an effort to arrive at a consensus "omnibus" resolution to address 12 non-self-governing territories, including the three territories of the United States: American Samoa, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The informal consultation process resulted in the passage, in March 1997, of a consensus "omnibus" resolution during a resumed session of the 51st UN General Assembly.

During the 1997 General Assembly, the United States joined consensus on resolutions regarding Western Sahara (Resolution 52/75) and New Caledonia (Resolution 52/76), decision 52/419 on Gibraltar, "Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories" (Resolution 52/74) and the "omnibus" resolution on 12 non-self-governing territories. (Resolution 52/77.)

The United States voted "no" on resolution 52/72, "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, (156 to 3 (U.S.), with 5 abstentions) and noted that economic activity in the non-self-governing territories is not inherently harmful and, in fact, often directly benefits the inhabitants of a given territory. The United States also opposed decision 52/417 "Military activities affecting Non-Self-Governing Territories, (108 to 51 (U.S.), with 3 abstentions), because all states have a right and obligation to defend their citizens and collective security arrangements are one way of doing so.

Part 2

Reform of the United Nations

Reform of the United Nations

The United States continued to press in 1997 for comprehensive reform in the United Nations and the specialized agencies, emphasizing consolidation of overlapping functions, cuts in staffing, priority-setting and budgetary discipline. Secretary General Annan undertook major initiatives with his Track One and Track Two proposals, announced in March and July respectively, encompassing a wide range of administrative, operational and institutional reforms in the UN Secretariat. The General Assembly's adoption of most of the proposals in two consensus resolutions marked a significant milestone for the UN and U.S. 3-year campaign for structural and institutional reforms. While the United States had concerns about some specific measures, it considered General Assembly endorsement of the proposals as a package as essential to the reform effort and supported Irish and Botswanan leadership in negotiations on that issue. (These reforms are discussed in greater detail below.)

The Open-Ended High-Level Working Group on Strengthening the UN System, informally known as the Essy Group, completed its work on reform in the economic, social and administrative areas in July. While it produced more than 100 proposals to improve the working of the General Assembly, its subsidiary bodies and the Secretariat, they were unexceptional and noncontroversial. On controversial issues, the United States successfully overcame attempts in the Group to have NGOs and the General Assembly play larger roles, such as NGO participation in UN deliberations and whether the General Assembly should have a role in selecting the Secretary General.

Budgetary Reform. Consistent with U.S. objectives, the UN General Assembly, in December, approved the UN regular budget for the 1998–1999 biennium at a level slightly below $2.533 billion. The budget takes account of various reform measures proposed by the Secretary General, including a reduction in the number of established posts in the UN Secretariat, resources for the new development account and resources for the newly created position of Deputy Secretary General. The budget also reflects the new net-budgeting concept proposed by the Secretary General to enable greater transparency in the presentation of certain UN costs that

are jointly financed with other UN entities. On a related matter, the General Assembly approved the UN scale of assessments for the 3-year period covering 1998–2000. The new scale maintains the current ceiling rate of 25 percent, but allows the possibility of revising the scale elements, including the ceiling rate, for the years 1999 and 2000. The United States is seeking to lower the ceiling rate to 22 percent, effective in 1999, and to establish a 25 percent maximum rate for UN peacekeeping operations. Although the United States currently is assessed over 30 percent for peacekeeping, U.S. domestic law prohibits payment of more than 25 percent toward these costs.

Oversight. The UN Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) was established in 1994 to assist the Secretary General in fulfilling his oversight responsibilities regarding the resources and staff of the United Nations. It is perceived as a professional and increasingly effective mechanism in uncovering, reporting on and deterring waste, fraud and mismanagement at the United Nations.

During 1997 the United States continued to press for a strong and transparent OIOS. In an effort to address U.S. concerns regarding the lack of OIOS external reporting to member states, the Office refined its reporting procedures. For the first time, Under Secretary General Paschke listed in his annual report all of the reports his office had produced and offered to brief member states on any report, upon request. U.S. officials have participated in a number of OIOS briefings, including several related to peacekeeping operations.

The UN General Assembly did not adopt a resolution on OIOS in 1997. This was primarily because of the failure of the Fifth Committee to reach consensus regarding the role of the General Assembly in formally endorsing OIOS recommendations before they are implemented, particularly with respect to recommendations relating to separately administered organs, such as UNDP and UNICEF. Despite the UN Legal Counsel's reaffirmation of OIOS's legal authority over all UN resources and staff, including the funds and programs, member states' disparate views on the issue did not change.

Personnel. It has been and remains U.S. policy to urge the United Nations and the specialized agencies to reduce staffing levels wherever possible in the interest of cutting costs and streamlining operations. The 1998–1999 UN budget, approved in December, includes significant reductions in the number of established posts. Over 900 posts are to be eliminated in the 1998–1999 budget, perhaps the largest decrease for any UN budget.

Secretary General's Reform Initiatives

The Secretary General's reform initiatives made significant structural improvements in the UN organization. Making the United Nations more efficient and effective benefits all member states, as the resources gained

from reduced administrative expenses can be redirected toward priorities in sustainable development, humanitarian assistance, human rights and peacekeeping.

On March 17 the Secretary General announced 10 administrative and managerial reforms (Track One), which he could implement on his own authority. These included reducing the 1998–1999 UN regular budget by $123 million, cutting administrative costs by one-third, merging three Secretariat economic departments into a new Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), eliminating nearly 1,000 personnel slots and applying a code of conduct on senior UN officials. The Secretary General's July 16 reform initiatives (Track Two), some subject to General Assembly approval (recommendations) and some not (actions which the Secretary General could already take), covered a wider range of topics. The United States agreed with most of the measures, especially those on development activities, humanitarian relief and human rights. The United States had reservations about specific proposals on proposed new financing mechanisms and the proposed restructuring of the Trusteeship Council.

On November 12 the General Assembly reached consensus on draft resolution A/52/L.17, "Renewing the United Nations: A Program for Reform," which endorsed the Track Two actions (Resolution 52/12 A). Although the Secretary General could implement the actions on his own authority without approval from the General Assembly, the resolution had symbolic importance since it illustrated that the measures have broad support.

Track Two actions that the United States supported include rationalizing the work of the new Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNCTAD; bringing together development activities in a UN Development Group; abolishing the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA) and transferring its core functions to a new Office of the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC); and consolidating the Center for Human Rights into the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The U.S. Government opposed completely phasing out the use of gratis personnel, seconded personnel who provide needed expertise for core functions such as peacekeeping or technical help for international tribunals.

The United States worked to ensure that the new Department of Disarmament Affairs does not duplicate or interfere with the existing Conference on Disarmament. It also worked to ensure that the new common managerial structure for drug control and crime prevention activities based in Vienna builds on existing synergies, eliminates duplication, and allows for continued specialized expertise to be brought to bear on these programs. Broad-based opposition to this proposal by many member states put this proposal on the sidelines, pending further evaluation.

On December 19 the General Assembly passed a second consensus draft resolution, A/52/L.72/Rev. 1, "Renewing the United Nations: A Pro-

gram for Reform," granting intergovernmental approval to most of the recommendations. (Resolution 52/12 B.)

The recommendations adopted that the United States favored include: establishing the post of Deputy Secretary General; abolishing the High-Level Advisory Board on Sustainable Development, now that arrangements are in place for inputs from civil society in UN deliberations on sustainable development; promoting enhancement of peacekeeping operations, especially rapid deployment capabilities; and setting up an account to reprogram savings from reduced administrative expenses into development-related programs.

The resolution referred the Secretary General's recommendations on the ECOSOC subsidiaries to ECOSOC for review, and requested that the Secretary General elaborate on several of his proposals. The U.S. Government opposed two of these recommendations, one for a revolving credit fund that the Secretary General would use to cover cash flow problems when member states are late in paying their dues, and another for UN retention of budget surpluses. The United States maintained that instilling better management procedures and budgetary restraint is a better way to improve the UN's financial situation. The U.S. Government strongly supported the recommendations to institute results-based budgeting and sunset provisions for UN programs, which were remanded for further clarification for the General Assembly's consideration in 1998.

ECOSOC Reform

ECOSOC reform is aimed at strengthening its role in the coordination of the full range of UN economic, social and related administrative activities. The United States worked towards this by supporting enhanced ECOSOC coordination of followup to UN conferences in decision 1997/302.

In its December 19 resolution 52/12 B, the General Assembly requested that ECOSOC review the Secretary General's recommendations on ECOSOC subsidiaries contained in his July 16 Track Two reform package. As part of its review of the roles and mandates of its subsidiary bodies, ECOSOC will consider and possibly make decisions on these recommendations in 1998.

The Secretary General called for consolidating the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and Energy for Development (CNRSEED) and the Committee on Natural Resources (CNR) into the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD); making the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) an UNCTAD subsidiary; and replacing the Committee for Development Planning (CDP) with an *ad hoc* panel of experts to address specific subjects related to development. The United States supports the suggestions on the CNRSEED, CNR and CDP. The United States prefers incorporating the CSTD into the work

of UNCTAD itself, but not as an additional commission under the Trade and Development Board.

The Secretary General recommended consolidating the functions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs into a single commission. The International Narcotics Control Board would report to the new commission. In general, the United States supports this, provided that the merger would strengthen the functions of both bodies by building on existing synergies and eliminating duplication of effort. The United States has also stressed that the merger must not jeopardize the funding levels for narcotics in favor of more generalized crime prevention programs, and specialized expertise must continue to be provided to both the crime and narcotics programs. Broad-based opposition to this proposal by many member states has put this proposal on the sidelines, pending further evaluation.

The United States strongly supports the Secretary General's proposal, now in place, to combine the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Human Rights Center, thereby strengthening the High Commissioner's ability to better coordinate with other parts of the UN system.

Peacekeeping Reform

Presidential Decision Directive 25 continues to be the blueprint for U.S. efforts to encourage further reform of UN peacekeeping. During 1997 the United Nations made significant progress toward improving its ability to plan and manage operations.

The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) continued to refine its structure. The DPKO staff was reduced in 1997 to 355 persons from 398 in 1996. At U.S. urging, DPKO transferred 26 core positions funded through the Peacekeeping Support Account to the regular budget. The Standby Arrangements Initiative, enabling the United Nations to identify possible contributors to operations based on member states' own designation of potentially available units, continues to grow. To date, 67 nations have signed on. The Rapidly Deployable Mission Headquarters (RDMHQ) program is progressing. The RDMHQ will provide the United Nations the capability to establish field control of a new peacekeeping operation quickly, while the United Nations identifies the Force Commander and contributor states. The United States made a contribution of $200,000 with year-end funds to the RDMHQ trust fund in September 1997. However, the United Nations remains considerably short of the estimated $3.2 million required to make the RDMHQ fully operational.

The Standby High Readiness Brigade (SHIRBRIG), a Danish-led initiative, is moving forward. A derivative of the Standby Arrangements program, the SHIRBRIG will provide the United Nations rapidly available forces to respond to a crisis for a limited period to give the United Nations time to locate and designate long-term contributor states. In September

1997 the core brigade staff was established and the commander identified. This multinational force is projected to be operational by August 1999.

Recognizing the importance of civilian police operations to fill the public security gap during peacekeeping operations, the U.S. Government has urged DPKO to give further study to civilian police (CIVPOL) issues and implement changes to enhance its capacity for planning and managing CIVPOL operations. The United Nations will host a CIVPOL seminar in March 1998 to consider lessons learned from previous operations and gather ideas for future reforms.

Security Council Reform

The United States supports an expanded Security Council, including permanent seats for Germany and Japan. The United States is also willing to consider three new permanent seats from the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, up to a maximum of 20–21 members. The Council's composition should continue to reflect political, economic and security realities. There should be no change in the status or privileges of the existing permanent members, and the integrity of the veto must remain intact.

During 1997 the General Assembly debated the reform and expansion of the Security Council extensively. The Open-Ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council (OEWG) met for the fourth consecutive year. Numerous nations spoke in favor of Security Council reform and expansion during 1997. However, there was insufficient agreement on the size and membership of an expanded Council to pass a substantive resolution on the subject. One draft resolution (A/52/L.7) on the subject was introduced, but a vote was deferred due to the lack of agreement. The General Assembly and the OEWG will debate the issue again in 1998.

Part 3

Economic and Development Affairs

Economic and Development Activities

The UN Charter established the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) as the principal organs of the United Nations responsible for the issues covered in this section of the report. The General Assembly usually takes up economic and development issues in its Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee), but the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), a subsidiary organ of both the General Assembly and ECOSOC, is another active venue for analysis and discussions. ECOSOC, made up of 54 elected member states, discusses economic and development issues at its regular session and in its subsidiary bodies.

The Second Committee took action on a wide variety of issues in 1997. Particularly notable was a resolution on business and development submitted by the United States, which called for the Secretariat and the operational agencies to focus on the role of the private sector in sustainable development. Other resolutions called for launching a serious, long-term review of the issue of financing for development and commended the World Bank and the IMF for the HIPC (Highly-Indebted Poor Countries) Initiative to address the debt problem of many developing countries. The United States cosponsored the trade and development resolution for the second year in a row and cosponsored the resolution on the role of micro-credit in the eradication of poverty. Finally, the United States cast the sole vote against a resolution originally drafted by Cuba urging the elimination of "unilateral coercive economic measures against developing countries that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations." The European Union, which in previous years had joined the United States in voting against similar resolutions, abstained on the Cuban resolution.

Regional Economic Commissions

The United Nations has five regional economic commissions: Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

(ESCWA). They are charged with "raising the level of economic activity" within their respective regions and "maintaining and strengthening the economic relations" of the countries within their scopes, "both among themselves and with other countries of the world." The regional commissions are funded out of the regular UN budget, but many of their activities are financed by extrabudgetary grants from bilateral and multilateral donors.

The United States is a member of three of the regional commissions: ECE, ESCAP and ECLAC.

Economic Commission for Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) was established in 1947. It is open to European members of the United Nations and has 55 members, including the former Central Asian and Caucasian republics of the U.S.S.R., plus the United States, Canada, Switzerland and Israel. ECE Headquarters are in Geneva.

The ECE meets annually in Geneva. In 1997, as part of the broader UN reform effort, the Commission adopted an action plan that reduced the ECE's resource use by 10.5 percent in the 1998–1999 biennium, prioritized its work program, reduced by 60 percent the number of work-program elements and restructured the number of ECE principal subsidiary bodies from 14 to 7 (plus a small coordinating unit on special tasks).

The ECE's terms of reference are broad. Like the other regional commissions, the ECE's principal task is the promotion of cooperation and integration among its member states. The United States has supported the Commission's increased emphasis on the economies in transition in Central and Eastern Europe, within the framework of the ECE's current mandate and available resources. This focus is maintained throughout the Commission's work program. The ECE holds workshops and seminars in its areas of expertise to support the integration of economies in transition into the global economy. In 1997 the ECE agreed to extend similar support to the economies in transition in Central Asia as well, in cooperation with ESCAP. Of the eight current areas of work, five—environment; transport; statistics; trade, industry and enterprise development; and economic analysis—receive over 90 percent of the Commission's resources. Sustainable energy, timber and human settlements receive the remainder. The ECE's EDIFACT program (Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport) established global standards for computerized trade transactions, aimed at permitting increased efficiency and financial savings. In environment, the ECE identifies and promotes regional efforts to address transboundary environmental problems. It provides a forum for the negotiation, adoption and implementation of important environmental conventions.

The Commission continues to supply technical assistance to the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), a U.S. Government-

conceived initiative to encourage economic and environmental cooperation in that region. The United States made a special contribution in 1997 of $75,000 to the ECE for SECI-related travel and administrative support.

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) was established in 1947 and has 51 members in an area stretching from Iran and Azerbaijan in the west to the Cook Islands in the South Pacific. ESCAP Headquarters are in Bangkok.

ESCAP provides a forum for discussion of development issues, identifies problems of social and economic development, provides technical assistance and advisory services, and aids members in attracting outside assistance. It does not provide grants or loans of its own. Most work is conducted through meetings of the intergovernmental and subsidiary bodies, with an emphasis on a thematic approach. ESCAP places particular importance on sustainable development for developing, least developed, landlocked and Pacific island economies.

ESCAP meets annually. At the 1997 Commission meeting the United States successfully led a detailed review of ESCAP's priorities and use of resources. The member states adopted a number of important reforms. They agreed to cut standing committees from six to five, with each committee meeting shortened to 3 days, equaling a 60 percent reduction in committee meeting days. They also reduced intergovernmental *ad hoc* meetings from 15 to 5, equaling a 75 percent reduction in annual meeting days.

The United States participates in the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives (ACPR). The ACPR is charged with reviewing the Commission's work program and overseeing further reform, restructuring and streamlining of ESCAP. Most recently, the ACPR agreed to reduce Commission meeting days from 7 to 6 and to bring in a panel of regional experts to facilitate more focused discussion of theme topics at Commission meetings.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The United States belongs to the 41-member Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) established in 1948. Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are among the six associate members. ECLAC's Headquarters are in Santiago, Chile.

ECLAC serves as a regional think tank on development policy, striving to take into account the social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship between economic and social factors. The focus of activities in recent years has been on "changing production patterns with social equity." Once a breeding ground for "dependency" theory and demands for a "New International Economic Order," ECLAC has moved

much closer to the economic mainstream in recent years, particularly concerning the importance of open markets and the role of the private sector in economic development. ECLAC also provides governments with economic and statistical information and works closely with other regional organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Latin American Economic System (SELA).

ECLAC is part of the Tripartite Committee (along with the Inter-American Development Bank and the OAS), which was created at the Miami Summit of the Americas in December 1995. It has provided the working groups of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) with analytical support, technical assistance and relevant studies as requested. In 1997 ECLAC, as president of the Tripartite Committee, studied both the readiness of the least developed and island states of the region for economic integration and the requirements for the Tripartite Committee to act as a temporary FTAA Secretariat during the negotiating process to be launched in 1998.

In November 1997 ECLAC convened its Seventh Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean. This Conference focused on the advancement of women in political participation and sustainable development.

ECLAC meets every other year. A reform exercise launched in 1996 has helped to streamline the Commission's work program and eliminate inefficient intergovernmental bodies. Members identified a 12.7 percent reduction in resource use. In 1997 ECLAC was chosen by UN Under Secretary for Management Joseph Connor to undertake a management pilot program. The pilot program delegates much authority over the allocation of financial and personnel resources from UN Headquarters in New York to Santiago. It is hoped that during the 1-year trial period of the pilot plan, greater local control of resources will allow the Secretariat to more efficiently use and rapidly shift resources to priority programs, as requested by the member states. If successful, the pilot program may be the model for delegation of such authority to other regional and functional commissions.

Economic and Development Bodies and Programs

UN Development Program

The UN Development Program (UNDP) is the largest funding agency for grant technical assistance in the UN system and plays a key role in coordinating UN development activities. Funded entirely through voluntary contributions, UNDP promotes sustainable human development through programs to eradicate poverty, generate employment, enhance the status of women, strengthen environmental protection and regeneration,

and encourage good governance. With offices in 134 countries, UNDP has a near-universal presence in the developing world.

In a report on U.S. participation in UNDP in April 1997, the General Accounting Office concluded that "UNDP's mission and objectives are generally consistent with U.S. national security and foreign policy objectives." In addition, UNDP often serves as a valuable partner in U.S. efforts to promote democracy, good governance and sustainable development.

With its headquarters in New York City, UNDP has always had an American as its Administrator. James Gustave ("Gus") Speth now holds that position, and was reappointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations to a second 4-year term in May 1997.

U.S. influence on UNDP has largely been the result of its strong financial support for the organization—the United States has historically been UNDP's largest contributor since its establishment in 1966. The 1997 U.S. contribution of $76.35 million, accounting for about 9 percent of UNDP's core resources, was a substantial increase from the 1996 figure of $52 million but still significantly less than previous years when U.S. contributions exceeded $100 million.

During 1997 the United States participated in all four meetings of UNDP's Executive Board. The United States continued to press UNDP to streamline operations and improve staff accountability, and played an important role in securing the Executive Board's May 1997 approval of a sweeping package of reforms that will make UNDP more decentralized and responsive to program country needs. A long-time advocate of system-wide reform of the United Nations, Administrator Speth was also named head of the UN Development Group (consisting of UNDP, UN Population Fund and UN Children's Fund) created by the reform measures announced by UN Secretary General Annan in July 1997.

UN Children's Fund

The UN General Assembly created the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) in 1946 to meet the emergency needs of children in the wake of World War II. UNICEF continues to provide assistance for children and mothers affected by natural and man-made disasters in countries such as Bosnia and the Great Lakes region of Africa. Over the years, UNICEF has evolved into primarily a development agency seeking long-term solutions for needy children and mothers in developing countries around the world. UNICEF programs focus on health, sanitation, nutrition and education. UNICEF estimates that through its immunization, oral rehydration and other activities, one million fewer children died in 1997 than in 1990, hence countries have made great progress in achieving the goals for children adopted at the 1990 World Summit for Children.

UNICEF also is considered the preeminent international advocate on behalf of the world's children, particularly for "the most disadvantaged children," that is, those who are victims of war, disasters, extreme poverty,

all forms of violence and exploitation and those with disabilities. UNICEF continues to make progress worldwide in achieving the goals of the 1990 World Summit for Children, in the areas of immunization, rehydration, guinea-worm disease, vitamin A and iodine deficiencies, and breastfeeding. As the decade review approaches, the United States continues to work closely with UNICEF to further the Summit's year 2000 goals.

In 1997 UNICEF expenditures totaled approximately $904 million while income totaled $905 million, down slightly from 1996. Of this amount, governments contributed $358 million to general resources, which fund UNICEF's core programs, and $242 million to supplementary resources, which fund specific projects and emergency operations. UNICEF also received $184 million from private, nongovernmental sources, including proceeds from sales of greeting cards and related products by the national committees. Of that figure, the U.S. National Committee provided $22.4 million to UNICEF in 1997. As in 1996, the U.S. Government contributed $100 million to general resources, making the United States once again UNICEF's largest donor. The U.S. Government also provided $65 million for supplementary and emergency programs in 1997.

The relationship between the United States and UNICEF continues to be as strong and extensive as ever. There is close consultation between the United States and UNICEF on technical matters of common interest, and strong cooperation in field activities. Health and education specialists from UNICEF, the U.S. Government and American nongovernmental organizations work together on child survival and development activities. In 1997 UNICEF employed 1,224 international professionals, 15 percent of them Americans. In addition, UNICEF purchased about $53 million in supplies, equipment and services from U.S. firms. The United States continues to be represented on UNICEF's Executive Board, which meets three times a year in New York City where UNICEF has its headquarters.

Since she took office in 1995, UNICEF's Executive Director Carol Bellamy, an American, has given top priority to management reform. As a result, UNICEF has implemented significant internal reforms that have improved the effectiveness of its programs in the 130-plus countries throughout the world where it operates. In addition, UNICEF has participated actively in implementing the UN Secretary General's 1997 reform package, leading to increased cooperation between UNICEF and the other UN development agencies.

Population Activities

The UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the leading multilateral donor for population assistance, finances activities in over 160 countries. Its areas of focus include reproductive health information and services, advocacy on behalf of population issues, and activities linking population issues with concerns regarding sustainable development and the status of women.

UNFPA projects create awareness among policymakers and the public at large about the adverse effects of rapid, unsustainable population growth on economic development, environment and social progress. UNFPA promotes the principle of voluntarism in population programs and opposes coercive population measures. It does not fund, condone or promote abortion.

As one of 36 members of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board, the United States participates actively in the governance of UNFPA. For example, the United States played an important role in shaping a decision of the Executive Board in May 1997 that restructured UNFPA's programming procedures to allow Board members to provide input early in the process of program formulation.

An important U.S. policy objective is full implementation of the Program of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), including the establishment of national population programs, the integration of family planning services into broader reproductive health programs, and national program sustainability. In this regard, UNFPA's activities complement U.S. bilateral population assistance and promote principles of voluntary family planning and reproductive health consistent with U.S. policy.

In 1997 the United States contributed $25 million to UNFPA, making it the fifth largest contributor. Total contributions from all donors to UNFPA in 1997 were about $291 million.

Human Settlements

Established by the UN General Assembly in 1977, the 58-member UN Commission on Human Settlements serves as the governing body for the UN Center for Human Settlements. Its headquarters are in Nairobi, Kenya. The Center's mandate includes coordinating human settlements activities within the UN system, executing technical assistance projects, performing research and serving as a focal point for information exchange. A major focus of the Center's activities in recent years has been the housing and urban indicators program. The 16th session of the Commission, which meets every 2 years, met April 28–May 7. The main agenda items included the Center's workplan for 1998–1999, follow-up to the Habitat II Conference and revitalization of the Center.

In resolution 51/177, adopted by consensus on December 16, 1996, the UN General Assembly designated the UN Center for Human Settlements as the focal point for implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the final document from the June 1996 UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) held in Istanbul. The resolution also called for a comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the Center. At the 16th Commission meeting, the United States participated actively in establishment of the Center's work plan to ensure a focus on the relevant provisions of the Habitat Agenda (adequate shelter for all, sustainable human settlements, capacity-building

and institutional development, and international cooperation and coordination) and their effective implementation. Habitat II, coming 20 years after the first Habitat Conference in Vancouver, made new recommendations for national actions in the field of human settlements, as well as for bilateral and multilateral assistance policies in the housing and urban sectors. The Commission also noted the importance of equal participation of women and youth in human settlements development, the value of partnership between public and private sectors and the need for management of natural resources in the context of sustainable human settlements.

The United States also played a key role in promoting implementation of increased reform and oversight in the financial and administrative matters at the Center. As a result, the Commission called for more transparent, more responsive financial reporting by the Center, which has begun. In addition, the Center, which underwent a leadership change in October 1997, is in the process of implementing a new, streamlined organization structure.

UN Conference on Trade and Development

The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council based in Geneva. It provides a forum for its 187 members to engage in policy and analytical discussions on a variety of economic subjects. The key event in 1997 was the annual Trade and Development Board (TDB) session held in October. This year's TDB session reviewed progress made in implementing the reform measures mandated by UNCTAD IX the previous year. Delegations agreed that while the reduction in the number of meetings had streamlined the operations of the organization, further efforts were required to enhance the effectiveness of the intergovernmental machinery (such as the newly established commissions and expert meetings) and to increase their usefulness to the member states. The United States worked to focus UNCTAD's work program for the biennium 1998–1999 and to narrow the scope of its technical cooperation program. UNCTAD was a key participant in the WTO-sponsored high-level meeting on the least developed countries, which was held in October in follow-up to the Singapore Ministerial of December 1996.

Commission on Sustainable Development

The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), a functional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council, was established in 1993 to review the implementation of outcomes from the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), especially the comprehensive set of recommendations known as Agenda 21. The Commission held its fifth session April 8–25 in New York, devoting itself to negotiations on a draft "outcomes" document for the special session of the UN General Assembly held June 23–27 to review the implementation of Agenda 21. The CSD produced a draft text confirming the mandate of the CSD and

establishing its future work program. The CSD referred passages dealing with several controversial issues to the special session. These issues include finance, trade and the environment, poverty alleviation, climate change and forest preservation.

Nineteenth Special Session

The 19th special session of the UN General Assembly to review the implementation of Agenda 21, the 1992 Rio Earth Summit's "blueprint" for sustainable development, met June 23–27. Vice President Gore opened the special session with an outline of the sustainable development problems now facing the global community, and emphasized the need to work together in a serious manner to address these issues. More than 50 heads of state or government, including President Clinton, addressed the plenary session. The President focused on climate change as the greatest global environmental challenge.

Countries finalized the negotiations begun at CSD on the program for the further implementation of Agenda 21, containing a balanced overall assessment of progress on sustainable development since UNCED, and accurately identifying the numerous areas requiring intensive further efforts to halt and reverse environmental degradation.

Countries participating in the special session reached consensus on a useful approach to continue addressing forest issues, encouraging concentrated efforts to carry out the recommendations already developed in earlier, extensive CSD-based work on forest issues. Similarly, on climate issues, the special session called for serious efforts to set realistic targets for limiting greenhouse gas emissions through mutually agreed and broadly shared measures, thus setting the tone for the negotiations held in Kyoto in December by the parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Speakers generally concurred that incremental progress has been made in implementing the principles of the 1992 Rio Declaration, but that additional efforts are necessary. The United States, along with other countries, reaffirmed its commitment to sustainable development, with its three interdependent and mutually reinforcing components—social development, environmental protection and economic growth. The program also contained some forward-leaning calls for action on reducing exposure to lead and curbing tobacco use that constituted modest but solid progress on key health and environment issues. Appropriate references were included to the Beijing Platform of Action on women's issues and to the Cairo Plan of Action on population problems

In negotiating sessions concurrent with the plenary, delegates addressed both sectoral (e.g., oceans and seas, toxic chemicals, biodiversity) and cross-sectoral issues (finance, capacity-building, international institutions). They finalized, and the special session adopted, a "Program for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21," which assessed the

progress made since the UN Conference on Environment and Development, included a renewed statement of commitment to sustainable development, and set forth a work plan for the CSD for the next 5 years.

Part 4

Human Rights and Social Issues

Human Rights

The United States continued its strong participation in the UN human rights mechanisms throughout 1997. The Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR) and the General Assembly provided opportunities for the United States to highlight its concern over continued violations of human rights in a number of countries. Independent expert David Weissbrodt echoed that message at the Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. In 1997, 126 resolutions on human rights were passed by the UNCHR. The UN General Assembly passed more than 60 human rights resolutions.

Resolutions addressing specific violations emphasized to offending countries that the international community will not stop its scrutiny of abuses. Thematic resolutions allowed the United States to enunciate policy goals regarding support of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and elimination of prejudice, racism and intolerance.

Commission on Human Rights

The UN Commission on Human Rights, which met in Geneva March 10–April 18, is the principal organ in the United Nations for achieving the Charter purpose of promoting respect for human rights. It is composed of 53 members, including the United States, elected for 3-year terms. Nancy H. Rubin led the U.S. Delegation.

The 53rd session was the fourth regular session following the creation of the post of High Commissioner for Human Rights. The United States joined consensus on a resolution on strengthening the Center for Human Rights. The United States continued efforts to persuade the Commission to rationalize the agenda by grouping resolutions on similar topics into a comprehensive omnibus resolution and biennializing certain thematic resolutions. The United States hopes that such reforms may make future meetings shorter and more efficient.

The United States drafted and successfully achieved Commission support for resolutions detailing human rights violations in Cuba, adopted by a vote of 19 (U.S.) to 10, with 24 abstentions, and in Sudan, adopted without a vote. The United States also supported an omnibus resolution con-

demning violations of human rights in the former Yugoslavia, also adopted without a vote. Additionally, the United States presented a positive resolution on the Middle East peace process, which was adopted without a vote.

The United States joined the European Union in strongly lobbying for a resolution condemning Chinese human rights violations. A Chinese proposal, which allowed "no action" on the subject, carried by a vote of 27 to 17 (U.S.), with 9 abstentions. The United States worked closely with like-minded delegations to adopt resolutions condemning human rights violations in Burma, Iran, Iraq, Burundi and Rwanda, as well as a resolution noting human rights advances in Haiti.

The United States cosponsored a strong draft resolution from the European Union on the situation of human rights in Nigeria, which was adopted by a vote of 28 (U.S.) to 6, with 19 abstentions. During Commission discussions on indigenous rights, the United States fought to gain a greater voice for indigenous organizations within the working groups on indigenous issues.

Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

The UN Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities held its 49th session in Geneva, August 3–28. Independent expert David Weissbrodt participated for the United States, in his second year on the Subcommission. The Subcommission considered cases filed by individuals and nongovernmental organizations against countries alleged to display patterns of consistent violations of human rights. In addition to confidential country proceedings, the Subcommission produced resolutions on the situations of human rights in the Congo, Bahrain and North Korea.

General Assembly

During the 52nd UN General Assembly, the United States played a leading role in obtaining passage of updated resolutions addressing country-specific situations. High points of the 52nd General Assembly were the U.S.-sponsored resolutions on the situations of human rights in the former Yugoslavia (Resolution 52/147), adopted by a vote of 133 (U.S.) to 2, with 27 abstentions; in Cuba (Resolution 52/143), adopted by a vote of 64 (U.S.) to 29, with 75 abstentions; and in Sudan (Resolution 52/140), adopted by a vote of 93 (U.S.) to 16, with 58 abstentions.

The United States cosponsored a number of thematic resolutions, including those on strengthening the rule of law, effective implementation of international human rights instruments, the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance and the rights of minorities. The United States continued efforts to biennialize resolutions.

Status of Women

Commission on the Status of Women

The 41st session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) met in New York, March 10–21. Ambassador Linda Tarr-Whelan, the U.S. Representative to the CSW, led the U.S. Delegation.

The main agenda items were: follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women; drafting of an optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; four priority themes—education and training, the environment, the economy, and power and decision-making; and the working group on communications. The Commission took action on four agreed conclusions, five decisions and eight resolutions; all but one were adopted by consensus.

The United States introduced a resolution entitled "Humanitarian assistance: mainstreaming a gender perspective," but withdrew it after it failed to garner sufficient support. In its place, the United States included in the chairperson's resolution on "Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programs in the UN system" a request that the Secretary General draw special attention to the full participation of women in all aspects of humanitarian assistance programs in his report to the CSW at its 42nd session.

The United States cosponsored two resolutions: Philippine's text on "Traffic in women and girls," which calls on governments to criminalize trafficking and encourages governments, international organizations and nongovernmental organizations to cooperate and facilitate the development of antitrafficking measures; and the G–77 text on "Older women," which recommends that the preparations for the International Year of Older Persons include a gender perspective. The United States called for a vote on the G–77 resolution entitled "Palestinian women," which the United States believes is one-sided in its criticism of Israel. It was adopted by a vote of 38 to 1 (U.S.), with 3 abstentions.

At the 39th (1995) session, the Commission decided to establish an open-ended working group at its 40th session with a view to elaborating a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. The working group continued its work during the 41st session. At the end of the 2-week session, the Commission adopted the draft report of the working group and a draft decision that renewed the mandate of the working group for the 42nd session of the CSW.

By resolution 1983/27, ECOSOC reaffirmed the CSW's mandate to consider confidential and nonconfidential communications on the status of women and to make recommendations to ECOSOC as to what action should be taken on emerging trends and patterns of discrimination against women revealed by such communications. It authorized the CSW to establish a five-member working group to consider the communications with a view to bringing to the Commission's attention those communications which appear to reveal a consistent pattern of reliably attested injustice and discriminatory practices against women.

The report of the working group was presented at a closed meeting of the CSW, on March 13. It highlighted the communications received and recommended that, in order to provide continuity, the CSW should, to the

extent possible, nominate the same members to serve on the working group for 2 years.

Economic and Social Council

In its decision 1996/310, the Council decided that the coordination segment of its 1997 substantive session should be devoted to "Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programs in the UN system." The Council accordingly discussed and adopted agreed conclusions at its 1997 session which contained a definition of the concept of gender mainstreaming, principles for mainstreaming, recommendations for mainstreaming and institutional requirements.

The Council also adopted the report of the Commission on the Status of Women and took action on the CSW draft resolutions and decisions. All were adopted by consensus except the resolution on Palestinian women, which was adopted by a vote of 44 to 1 (U.S.), with 0 abstentions. (Resolution 1997/16.)

General Assembly Consideration

The General Assembly adopted by consensus eight resolutions under the agenda items "Advancement of women" and "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women." The United States cosponsored the resolution on "Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat" (Resolution 52/96), "Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls" (Resolution 52/99) and "UN Development Fund for Women." (Resolution 52/94.)

Crime Prevention and Control

The UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is the principal intergovernmental policy-making body of the United Nations in this field. The Commission held its sixth session in Vienna, April 28–May 9.

Efforts to strengthen the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program (UNCPCJP) gained support at the sixth session as member states recognized the crucial role that this entity can play in strengthening international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, especially in the area of providing technical assistance to nations. The UN Secretary General took a step toward assisting with this strengthening process when he named noted crime fighter, former Italian Senator and international criminal scholar Pino Arlacchi as Under Secretary General of the UN Office at Vienna (UNOV) and effective head of UNCPCJP in June.

Arlacchi is providing aggressive leadership in moving the UNCICP, more commonly referred to as the Crime Center, away from an academic oriented body toward one which provides technical and institution-building assistance and functions in a leadership capacity in fighting transnational organized crime and corruption. He hopes to attract police practitioners from several nations to provide active assistance to developing police and judiciary. Several resolutions initiated at the sixth

Crime Commission meeting were adopted by the UN General Assembly, buttressing his efforts. Resolution 52/90 specifically affirmed the high priority attached to technical cooperation and advisory services.

The sixth Crime Commission also adopted anticorruption measures and measures opposing violence against women. This Commission also sponsored, with U.S. support, one experts meeting on mutual legal assistance and another which began drafting a convention addressing transnational organized crime. The experts meeting on mutual legal assistance was held in Washington, D.C., coordinated by the Departments of State and Justice. The United States contributed financial support to the first meeting of experts on the transnational organized crime convention to be held February 2–6, 1998, in Warsaw, and will send experts from the Departments of State, Justice and Treasury. Additional meetings are planned during the seventh Crime Commission meeting in Vienna, April 21–30, 1998, and in Buenos Aires in the fall of 1998.

In fiscal year 1997, the United States contributed $1 million to the Crime Center for three projects: implementation of a convention on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters among the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS); support to the national crime prevention strategy in the Republic of South Africa to combat economic and commercial crime; and institution-building and strengthening of organized crime control capacity in Romania.

Drug Abuse Control

The UN International Drug Control Program (UNDCP) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), based in Vienna, are the primary UN drug control organizations. Both are key organizations supporting U.S. Government drug control objectives.

With a budget of $84.5 million in 1997, UNDCP, a voluntarily funded program with UN regular budget support, provided drug control assistance to 65 countries threatened by illicit production, trafficking and abuse. The U.S. contribution, provided by the Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Matters, was $9.7 million, for specific country and regional programs to target heroin production and trafficking, and for programs providing assistance in implementation of the UN drug conventions. U.S. assistance was focused on areas where extensive bilateral counterdrug aid has been constrained for political or logistical reasons.

Pino Arlacchi, former Italian Senator and crime expert, was appointed by the Secretary General to the post of Executive Director of the UNDCP, effective September 1, 1997. On November 1 Arlacchi was also named as Director General of the newly created Office of Drug Control and Crime Prevention, established to address the interrelated issues of drug control, crime prevention and international terrorism. Under the reorganization, UNDCP continued to have the responsibility and leadership on all issues related to drug control.

During 1997 UNDCP gave renewed emphasis to supply reduction, particularly the heroin threat. UNDCP efforts led to a stated commitment by Taliban authorities in Afghanistan to ban illicit opium cultivation. With U.S. support and assistance, the UNDCP also engaged large opium-producing countries to take measures against illicit drugs.

Cooperation was furthered on transnational issues such as chemical control, money laundering and maritime cooperation. UNDCP efforts also helped ensure that governments complied with the UN drug control conventions, by providing assistance to countries in developing their national drug control plans and in taking legal measures. UNDCP developed closer partnerships in 1997 with other UN agencies in promoting drug control objectives.

A special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, is scheduled for 3 days in June 1998. The special session, modified from the original proposal for a major drug conference, will mark the 10-year anniversary of the adoption of the 1988 UN Drug Convention, and will focus on achieving full ratification and implementation of all UN drug control conventions.

The special session preparatory process began in 1997 through the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). The CND met formally in March, and subsequently held three informal open-ended intersessional meetings in Vienna, to address specific issues related to supply and demand reduction. U.S. Representatives participated in all of these meetings of the CND, as well as drug-related meetings of the ECOSOC (July), UN General Assembly (October) and a reconvened budget meeting of the CND (December).

At the regular March CND meeting, the United States presented resolutions on control of chemicals and stimulants, on maritime cooperation, and on government action to implement the 1988 convention articles focusing on law enforcement and judicial cooperation. They were all adopted by consensus.

The December CND budget meeting approved the biennial 1998–1999 voluntary budget for the UNDCP with a 30 percent increase overall. This was due to anticipated increased voluntary contributions and by drawing down the level of UNDCP reserves. Much of the additional resources will be for programs to target opium poppy cultivation and heroin production. The United States strongly endorsed the approved changes proposed by UNDCP in management and administration, including decentralization of responsibility and resources to field offices, cutting bureaucracy and streamlining program activities.

Coordinating UN Disaster Relief and Humanitarian Assistance

A key U.S. priority over the last several years has been to enhance the coordination of UN emergency relief efforts. The United States strongly

supported General Assembly resolution 46/182, which established the position of Emergency Relief Coordinator; and ECOSOC resolution 1995/56, which recognized the differences and limitations in the capacity of UN humanitarian agencies to respond to emergencies. It also urged the governing bodies of the relevant agencies to review, during the 1995–1997 period, issues concerning the role and operational responsibilities as well as the operational and financial capabilities of their respective organizations.

Track II Reform Proposals

Throughout the year, the United States was actively engaged in reviewing and analyzing options to improve the delivery of humanitarian assistance, including proposals made by the Secretary General, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and nongovernmental organizations.

On July 16 the Secretary General released his Track II reform proposals, which contained the following announcements related to humanitarian affairs:

- An Office of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, headed by an under secretary general, will be established at UN Headquarters.
- The Emergency Relief Coordinator will focus on the core functions identified in General Assembly resolution 46/182. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs will be discontinued in its present form.
- Some of the functions of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs will be redistributed within the UN system (e.g., disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness to UNDP; demining to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations).
- The IASC will be further strengthened and continue to be the main consultative body for humanitarian agencies, chaired by the Emergency Relief Coordinator. An IASC Steering Committee will be established, with six members. (The idea of a steering committee was later dropped.)
- The IASC will be asked to identify measures to harmonize processes and further enhance the consolidated appeal process to ensure that appeals are needs-based and prioritized, taking into account the comparative advantage of each agency.
- In the field, a lead agency may be designated by the Emergency Relief Coordinator to coordinate complex emergencies.

The Track II proposals also contained the following recommendations, which required action by the General Assembly before they could be put into effect:

- That the General Assembly designate the Emergency Relief Coordinator as the UN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator, and transfer the Emergency Relief Coordinator's responsibilities related to the coordination of natural disaster mitigation activities to UNDP.

- That a humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council be established as soon as possible.

Economic and Social Council Consideration

In response to ECOSOC resolution 1995/56, members of the IASC became involved in a 2-year review of their roles, responsibilities and capabilities to respond to emergencies. The results of this review were contained in the Secretary General's interim report to ECOSOC. This report, however, was overshadowed by the Secretary General's Track II reform proposals, released July 16, the day before ECOSOC began its deliberations on agenda item eight: "Coordination of UN humanitarian assistance."

Because there was no time for a substantive review of Track II, ECOSOC member states agreed they would deliberate on the humanitarian assistance agenda item, but would not introduce or take action on any proposals. In their statements, several delegations, including the United States, made specific suggestions for improving the focus and structure of the UN's humanitarian assistance program. The United States emphasized the following:

- The Emergency Relief Coordinator should be supported by a group of senior staff seconded from members of the IASC;
- The link between the Emergency Relief Coordinator and humanitarian operational agencies should be strengthened;
- Streamlining of the Geneva office could be achieved by merging the Complex Emergency Division with the Relief Coordination Branch in Geneva;
- The Office of the Emergency Relief Coordinator should not be involved in operational activities;
- The role of the IASC as the primary operational decision-maker for complex emergencies should be affirmed and strengthened, with a strengthened and impartial Secretariat to serve it;
- The roles and responsibilities of the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Assistance and the IASC should be clarified; and
- Member states should have regular and frequent exchange of views with the Emergency Relief Coordinator.

During the summer and autumn, members of the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Assistance and the IASC met to put together a plan to implement the Track II reform measures. In November the Secretary General announced that Sergio Vieira de Mello (Brazil) would become the new Emergency Relief Coordinator, effective January 1998.

General Assembly Consideration

On December 19 the General Assembly adopted without a vote a resolution entitled "Renewing the United Nations: A program for reform,"

which took action on the recommendations contained in the Secretary General's Track II reform proposals. Resolution: 52/12 B:

- Designates the Emergency Relief Coordinator as the UN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator, who will, *inter alia*, retain responsibility for coordination of natural disaster relief;
- Transfers to UNDP the responsibilities for operational activities for natural disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness;
- Requests that the Secretary General to submit, before the end of the 52nd session of the General Assembly, a report on the method of financing of natural disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness activities beyond the biennium 1998–1999; and
- Establishes a humanitarian affairs segment of ECOSOC.

In addition to the reform initiatives, the General Assembly adopted several resolutions on coordinating disaster aid. Resolutions on the "Safety and security of humanitarian personnel" (Resolution 52/167) and "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations" (Resolution 52/168) were adopted without a vote.

Several resolutions related to special economic assistance to individual countries or regions (Resolutions 52/169 A–M) were also adopted. The United States joined consensus in adopting resolutions on the following: Democratic Republic of the Congo; Central African countries; El Salvador; Lebanon; Liberia; Central America; neighboring and other states affected by the sanctions imposed on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; Tajikistan; Montserrat; Djibouti; Somalia; and Kazakhstan. The United States called for a vote on the resolution on "Emergency assistance to Sudan," which was adopted by a vote of 95 to 38 (U.S.), with 13 abstentions. (Resolution 52/169 F.)

ReliefWeb

ReliefWeb is the UN's premier Internet tool for reporting ongoing humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters. ReliefWeb emerged from the pilot phase in October 1996 and was adopted by the UN General Assembly in resolution 51/194 as the "global humanitarian information system for the dissemination of reliable and timely information on emergencies and natural disasters." The General Assembly also encouraged all governments, UN agencies, funds, programs and other relevant organizations, including NGOs, to support ReliefWeb and actively participate in the ReliefWeb information exchange through the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs.

In 1997 ReliefWeb remained invaluable and also expanded its information-sharing agreements with the relief community, especially in Africa and the Middle East. Toward the end of 1997, it also began plans to place ReliefWeb on CD-ROM, which will make the system's data and maps inexpensively available in regions with little or no availability to the Internet. The prestigious Asia-Pacific Disaster Center in Hawaii agreed to be a

mirror image in Asia, and the Government of Turkey has agreed to do the same in its region. In addition, ReliefWeb began exploring ways to improve its maps, and created a "chat room" for use by relief workers around the world.

ReliefWeb has become a key substantive tool supporting relief, logistics, supply and contingency planners. It strengthens the capacity of all relevant actors, particularly in disaster- and emergency-prone countries, to receive and use information more effectively in support of prevention, relief and recovery. But ReliefWeb will also always be a work-in-progress, as the nature of emergencies is changing. The following are some key goals the U.S. Government has discussed with ReliefWeb, some of which will take several years to achieve.

Regions with inadequate Internet and telecommunications access need special help. One approach is to augment the Internet with CD-ROM products. Another complementary idea is to develop a network of regional information centers responsible for the collection, analysis and dissemination of information between relief organizations and disaster-prone regions. This effort can exponentially increase the flow of especially large logistical databases, geospatial products from satellites and other data-dense reports; it can also speed the exchange of ordinary essential operational material. Future sites may include the Great Lakes region of Africa, the Horn of Africa, the Sahel, the Caucasus, the Balkans and Latin America.

The U.S. Department of State has urged ReliefWeb to lead an international effort to standardize disaster information reporting. This effort should also stimulate more sharing of useful information in all relief languages. This has been a goal of ReliefWeb from the start. The year 1997 saw real progress, particularly at an International Symposium on the Role of Information in Humanitarian Coordination, sponsored by the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs in October 1997. Both in a special U.S. Department of State-chaired seminar and during the Symposium, State, U.S. AID/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) and U.S. Institute for Peace discussed various efforts aimed at helping ReliefWeb achieve this essential goal.

ReliefWeb is also designing a system of alerts to ensure prompt and effective humanitarian responses. Once implemented, this will be of great value.

Enhancing the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) early warning capacity is a key goal. Working with regional organizations like the OAU, OCHA plans to build focused information sets and reporting schemes that illuminate the root causes of natural and complex humanitarian emergencies. This will be accomplished in part by integrating the Humanitarian Early Warning System (HEWS) and the Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN) with ReliefWeb. IRIN is an OCHA-managed e-mail service in Nairobi that packages reports on events in the Great Lakes region, often before traditional sources. All of its

reports are posted on ReliefWeb. The project expanded in 1997 by inserting a new node in West Africa, a timely decision, given the events in Sierra Leone. HEWS provides early warning analysis reports to the Secretary General. Such reports are sensitive and should remain in-house. However, early warning indicators (not the reports) should be reported on ReliefWeb. The United States has also encouraged ReliefWeb to engage the entire relief community to develop a common set of indicators. Should this happen, all users could post basic data on ReliefWeb, thus giving the entire relief community a new tool for effective early warning analysis. This effort will probably take place in 1998.

ReliefWeb's worldwide address is http://www.reliefweb.int/. See also http://www.state.gov/www/issues/relief/field.html.

World Food Program

The World Food Program (WFP) is the UN system's principal vehicle for multilateral food aid, including emergency food intervention and grant development assistance. Established in 1963 in Rome under UN and FAO auspices, WFP uses commodities and cash provided by donor countries to support social and economic development, protracted refugee and displaced persons projects, and emergency food assistance in natural disaster or man-made crisis situations. The Program fed some 50 million people in 1997. With strong U.S. support, WFP has established formal working relationships with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and key NGOs, who often act as distribution partners in the field.

Aid for long-standing complex emergencies (in particular, parts of the former Soviet Union, former Yugoslavia, and sub-Saharan Africa) continues to strain WFP's oversubscribed resources. As a result, WFP currently spends over two-thirds of its resources on emergency and other humanitarian relief projects, leaving less than one-third for development activities. WFP development projects seek to improve agricultural production, rural infrastructure, nutrition and the environment. Mother-child and school feeding interventions are aimed at improving the nutrition and quality of life of the most vulnerable people. Food-for-work projects help build infrastructure and promote the self-reliance of the poor through labor-intensive programs.

WFP operates exclusively from voluntary contributions of commodities and cash donated by governments. For 1997 WFP garnered $1.2 billion. The United States gave almost $375 million: $165 million in commodities and transport costs, consisting largely of $164 million in U.S. AID-administered Public Law 480 (Farm Bill) Title II funds, an additional $193 million from other U.S. AID resources and almost $17 million via the State Department. Catherine Bertini, WFP's first American and first woman Executive Director, was reelected to a second 5-year term in March.

The United States is a member of WFP's governing board, the Executive Board. Agenda concerns continue to be dominated by declining donor

resources for development and burgeoning emergency and refugee populations. The United States has encouraged the organization to focus on its comparative advantage in relief and rehabilitation instead of development, which is better handled elsewhere in the UN system. In addition, newly prosperous nations are being encouraged to assume WFP's work within their borders, as WFP seeks to restrict its development assistance to the world's very poorest.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Executive Committee Action

The theme of the 48th session of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees' (UNHCR) Executive Committee was "Repatriation Challenges." With the repatriation of refugees increasingly taking place in volatile or unstable environments, delegates discussed challenges such as repatriation under pressure or duress, repatriation in the aftermath of conflict, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and reconciliation.

The Executive Committee adopted four conclusions on international protection in general, safeguarding of asylum, safety of UNHCR staff and other humanitarian personnel and the needs of refugee children and adolescents. It also adopted a conclusion on "Follow-up to the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States) Conference."

Finally, the Executive Committee approved the revised 1997 general program budget of $452,612,000 and the 1998 general program budget of $440,000,000. The overall estimate for both the general program and special programs for 1998 was $995,900,000. The Executive Committee's standing committee met five times in 1997 to discuss and provide guidance on protection, policy, management, finance and program issues affecting the organization.

The U.S. statement on the annual theme emphasized the need for burden-sharing by the international community, nonrefoulement of refugees, maintaining the civilian character of refugee camps, the principle of voluntary repatriation and the importance of reconstruction, rehabilitation and reconciliation to ensure that repatriation is durable. In a separate statement, the United States stressed the importance of protection and the need to adhere to fundamental humanitarian principles, reminding governments of their responsibilities in this regard, highlighting the importance of resettlement as a means of protection and burden-sharing and expressing concern about the vulnerability of women and children.

General Assembly Consideration

The General Assembly adopted five resolutions without a vote under the agenda item "Report of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions."

The United States cosponsored the following resolutions: "Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees" (Resolution 52/103), which focuses

on the need to pursue and implement durable solutions; "Continuation of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees" (Resolution 52/104), which continues the Office of the High Commissioner for a further period of 5 years, from January 1, 1999; and "Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighboring States." (Resolution 52/102.) The regional conference was held in May 1996 in Geneva.

The United States joined consensus in adopting "Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors" (Resolution 52/105) and "Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa. (Resolution 52/101.)

World Social Situation

The 35th Commission for Social Development met February 25–March 6, achieving consensus on eight resolutions, including the agreed conclusions on the priority theme "Productive Employment and Sustainable Development." The U.S. Delegation stated its reservations on the agreed conclusions, which did not adequately qualify the kind of child labor that should be eliminated, and rejected the formulation "equal remuneration for men and women for work of equal value." (The United States observes the principle of "equal pay for equal work.") Among the adopted resolutions were "International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages," "Equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities," which renews the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Disabilities for another 3 years, and "Implementation of the World Program of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, including a World Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth" (to be held in Portugal in August 1998).

The Economic and Social Council held its regular session in Geneva June 30–July 25. Key agenda items included a high-level expert debate on fostering an enabling environment for development, and mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programs in the UN system.

Part 5

Science, Technology and Research

UN Environment Program

The UN Environment Program (UNEP) is the UN's principal environment organization, responsible for catalyzing action on global environmental problems. UNEP also supports the collection, assessment and dissemination of environmentally related information.

UNEP has faltered in recent years. Though the United States increased its contribution in 1997 (compared to 1996), generally reduced revenues continued to affect the organization's ability to carry out its programs. Nonetheless, encouraging signs were apparent. The 19th Governing Council adopted a focused mandate, the Nairobi Declaration, which clearly sets forth organizational priorities. It also created a new entity, the High-level Committee of Ministers and other Officials (HLC), which provides environmental ministers the opportunity to shape UNEP programs and policies. The HLC held its initial meeting in June 1997, and endorsed a broad agenda of reform. Finally, in December, Klaus Toepfer, a reform-minded former German Minister of Environment, was selected as UNEP's new Executive Director.

UNEP continued to make progress on key issues of importance to the United States. It supported the implementation of various international agreements such as the Basel Convention on trade in hazardous wastes; the Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol to reduce the use of ozone-depleting substances; the Biodiversity Convention to protect against species loss; and the Convention to Combat Desertification and Climate Change. UNEP also continued its work through the regional seas program to implement the Global Program of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities. Finally, UNEP was instrumental in promoting international chemicals negotiations, and is launching an effort to limit certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides.

The United States continued its support for UNEP's scientific monitoring and assessment, Earthwatch, through participation in several of its programs, in particular, the Global Resource Information Database (GRID), the Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS) and the environmental information retrieval system (INFOTERRA).

Protection of World Climate

The parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC), which entered into force in March 1994, continued their efforts to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change. Over 160 nations have ratified the convention and participate in the negotiations. Negotiations to address action in the post-2000 period were inaugurated at the first Conference of the Parties (COP) in Berlin in 1995, and culminated in the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol in December 1997.

With the ultimate objective of stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, the developed nations, as a whole, agreed to reduce emissions by approximately 5.2 percent below 1990 levels. The United States will limit its greenhouse gas emissions, during the period 2008–2012, to seven percent below base year levels. Other developed countries committed to similar targets. Reductions will be accomplished according to national circumstances. Flexibility is provided through international emissions trading, joint implementation among developed countries and a Clean Development Mechanism involving project activities in developing countries.

Developing countries have taken further steps by agreeing to formulate more detailed national climate change programs and international reports. They also may participate in the Clean Development Mechanism, through which they may receive investment resources for projects which reduce emissions, and in turn "sell" those reductions to investors with emission commitments.

Several important issues remain to be decided or refined by COP–4, to be held in November 1998 in Buenos Aires. They include: progress in establishing rules for international emissions trading, the crediting of climate-friendly investments in developing countries toward emissions reductions and the treatment of carbon "sinks."

Work also continued in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), most particularly on procedural and technical matters. The 13th plenary was held in the Maldives in September 1997. Planning took place to launch the IPCC's third assessment report. The IPCC also contributed to international negotiations through preparation of several technical and special reports.

UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation

The UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) was established by the General Assembly in 1955 to provide continuous review and evaluation of the effects of ionizing radiation on humans and their environment. Radiation in this context covers both natural and man-made (i.e., from atmospheric and surface nuclear explosions,

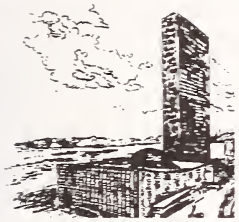
environmental radiation, and medical and occupational exposures). The Committee receives, assembles and compiles reports and information furnished by its member states, members of the United Nations, specialized agencies, the IAEA and nongovernmental organizations on observed levels of ionizing radiation and on scientific observations and experiments relevant to the effects of ionizing radiation on people and the environment.

The 46th session of UNSCEAR met June 16–20 in Vienna, Austria. On the basis of documents prepared by the UNSCEAR Secretariat, the Committee reviewed and worked on the following documents: Natural Radiation Exposures, Exposures from Man-made Sources of Radiation, Medical Radiation Exposures, Occupational Radiation Exposures, Dose Assessment Methodologies, Epidemiological Evaluation of Radiation-induced Cancer, DNA Repair and Mutagenesis, Hereditary Effects of Radiation, Combined Effects of Radiation and Other Agents, Biological Effects of Low-level Radiation and Local Exposures and Effects from the Chernobyl Accident.

On December 10 the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 52/55, entitled "Effects of Atomic Radiation," without a vote. Operative paragraph nine of the resolution

> . . . invites the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Health Organization to consider the functions and role of UNSCEAR and submit a recommendation to the General assembly at its 53rd session.

Part 6



Legal Developments

International Court of Justice

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. The Court decides cases submitted to it by states and gives advisory opinions on legal questions at the request of international organizations authorized to request such opinions. In recent years, the Court has had more cases on its docket than ever before.

The Court is composed of 15 judges, no two of whom may be nationals of the same state. During 1997 the Court was composed as follows: Stephen M. Schwebel (United States–President), Christopher G. Weeramantry (Sri Lanka–Vice President), Mohammed Bedjaoui (Algeria), Shigeru Oda (Japan), Gilbert Guillaume (France), Raymond Ranjeva (Madagascar), Geza Herczegh (Hungary), Shi Jiuyong (China), Carl-August Fleischhauer (Germany), Abdul G. Koroma (Sierra Leone), Vladlen S. Vereshchetin (Russia), Rosalyn Higgins (United Kingdom), Gonzalo Parra-Aranguren (Venezuela), Pieter H. Kooijmans (Netherlands) and Jose F. Rezak (Brazil).

The UN General Assembly and the Security Council, voting separately, elect the judges from a list of persons nominated by national groups on the Permanent Court of Arbitration. Judges are elected for 9-year terms, with 5 judges elected every 3 years. The most recent round of elections was held on November 6, 1996, when Judges Bedjaoui, Schwebel and Vereshchetin were reelected to the Court and Judges Kooijmans and Rezak were elected for initial terms.

At elections held by the Court on February 6, 1997, Judge Stephen M. Schwebel of the United States was elected President of the Court for a 3-year term.

The United States was involved in the following matters in the Court since the last report.

Oil Platforms

On November 2, 1992, Iran brought a case against the United States charging that U.S. military actions against Iranian oil platforms in the Persian Gulf during the conflict between Iran and Iraq violated the 1955

Treaty of Amity between the two countries. The incidents cited by Iran followed attacks by Iranian military forces against U.S. naval and commercial vessels in the Gulf. The United States filed a Preliminary Objection to the Court's jurisdiction, which was considered at hearings in September 1996. In December 1996 the Court rendered a decision agreeing with the U.S. position that the Court did not have jurisdiction under two of the three treaty articles invoked by Iran, but concluding that it had jurisdiction to consider a third treaty claim. On June 23, 1997, the United States filed its Counter-Memorial and a counter-claim in the case. In a letter dated October 2, Iran's agent objected to the admissibility of the U.S. counter-claim. The Vice President of the Court met with the U.S. and Iranian agents on October 17 to discuss further proceedings in light of Iran's letter. The Court subsequently asked Iran to specify the legal grounds for its opinion by November 18, and the United States to respond within a month. On November 18 Iran filed a document explaining its objections and requesting a hearing. The United States filed its response on December 18.

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya v. United States of America

On March 3, 1992, Libya initiated cases against the United States and the United Kingdom charging violations of the 1971 Montreal (Air Sabotage) Convention, asserting that the United States and the United Kingdom interfered with Libya's alleged right to try individuals suspected of the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, on December 21, 1988. On June 20, 1995, the United States filed Preliminary Objections to the Court's jurisdiction in the case; the United Kingdom also filed such Preliminary Objections. Libya filed its written response on December 20, 1995. The Court held a hearing on the U.S. and U.K. Preliminary Objections on October 13–22, 1997. A legal team representing the United States participated actively in those hearings.

International Law Commission

The International Law Commission (ILC) was established in 1948 to promote the codification and progressive development of international law. Its 34 members, persons of recognized competence in international law who serve in their individual capacities, are elected by the General Assembly for 5-year terms. Mr. Robert Rosenstock of the United States is serving his second term as a member of the Commission.

The Commission studies international law topics that it determines to be suitable for codification or progressive development or that are referred to it by the General Assembly. It generally selects one of its members (designated a special rapporteur) to prepare reports on each topic and, after discussion, to draft articles for adoption by the Commission. The Commission reports annually on its work to the General Assembly.

At its 1997 session, the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly held a detailed debate on the ILC's report on its 49th session, held May

12–July 18 in Geneva. This debate indicated that the Commission had a productive session in Geneva, and is carrying into effect a set of reforms aimed at improving the relevance, quality and timeliness of its work.

During its 1997 session, the Commission completed its first reading of a draft declaration on questions of nationality relating to succession of states, adopted preliminary conclusions on several key questions relating to reservations to treaties, and appointed new special rapporteurs for its work on four subjects (state responsibility, diplomatic protection, unilateral acts of states, and international liability for injurious consequences of acts not prohibited by international law).

The Commission also established a detailed work program specifying its planned activities for each year of the 5-year term that began in 1997. This plan foresees that each topic now under consideration by the Commission either will be completed or brought to a defined transitional point by the end of the Commission's 2001 session. This should lessen disruptions of the Commission's work such as those that have resulted in the past from retirements of special rapporteurs or other personnel changes.

UN Commission on International Trade Law

The UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), established by General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI) in 1966, has maintained a technically focused program on harmonizing national laws to promote trade and commerce. It has generally avoided political issues that may arise in the work of other bodies. The Commission, with headquarters in Vienna, Austria, usually holds up to 4 weeks of working group meetings annually on all active topics, which are reviewed at its annual plenary session. The United States was reelected in 1997, along with Austria, Italy and Spain, for the four open WEO (Western European and Other) seats on the 36-member body for another 6-year term.

UN Model Law on Cross-border Insolvency

The UN model law, completed by the Commission at its May plenary session, was endorsed by General Assembly resolution 52/157 in December (adopted without a vote) and had involved government delegations, judicial groups from member states, private sector associations and NGOs in its preparation. The model law sets out international standards for access for foreign representatives to national proceedings; protection of assets to permit rescue of going concerns or distribution, taking into account interests in different countries; procedures for rapid action by courts; authority for judicial cooperation between states; and equalization of benefits for creditors regardless of country origins. These factors are important in restructuring insolvency laws for countries seeking to improve investment and their participation in international commerce. Draft legislation was prepared for introduction of the UN model law as amendments to the U.S. federal bankruptcy code, as a signal of U.S. support for this model law.

Draft Convention on Commercial Finance

Working group meetings narrowed the gap between states with new commercial laws in place, such as the United States and Canada, and states whose laws do not now recognize modern commercial finance methods. The draft convention covers accounts receivable financing, the core method by which most inventory financing takes place in countries such as the United States, and which has become central to many privately financed overseas projects. The U.S. objective is for a convention that creates new commercial credit for developing and emerging countries, rather than simply making more efficient the trade that now exists between the United States and its major trading partners. The United States has proposed a treaty regime by which countries would agree on basic legal principles at the outset, and could then optionally join an internationally linked system of computer registries for providing notice of financing agreements. The U.S. view was that the latter would be necessary to actually create additional credit in world markets, especially in the developing world.

International Electronic Commerce

Following its completion of the UN Model Law on Electronic Commerce in 1996, the Commission began work on uniform rules for electronic signature systems. The United States has maintained that the rules should recognize both market-based solutions and licensed or regulated systems. In addition, the United States has urged that the rules be technology-neutral, and cover both digital signature systems (dual public key) and other methods for assuring message integrity and authentication. Similar U.S. concerns have been voiced at the OECD, the European Commission and other fora where this subject has been raised.

International Project Finance

The Commission began work on a legislative guide for countries to authorize and promote privately financed and privately managed infrastructure projects. The guide will cover necessary changes to national laws, including privatization authority where appropriate; standards for approval of private and public sector mixed companies; assurances for long-term financing, including accounts receivable and secured interests; authority for off-shore project specific corporate entities; procurement and development; and related matters. The United States has recommended that such legislation preserve wide latitude for private sector initiatives and management, while recognizing needs for some regulatory framework to ensure delivery of public services. The World Bank and others have recommended that the text emphasize competition policy. The Commission will seek to complete this work in 1999, in view of the large number of states interested in this rapidly growing technique of providing facilities for power generation, water supply, roadways, communication systems, etc.

UN Training and Assistance

There was broad support from member states, including the United States, for the increase in Secretariat-led assistance programs—primarily in developing and emerging state countries—for implementation of UNCITRAL legal texts. These efforts are consistent with U.S. goals, since the Commission has continued to produce legal standards that are technically focused and sensitive to market economics. The Secretariat continued its distribution of the UN case law series on UNCITRAL texts (known as CLOUT), based on the work of national correspondents appointed by states, including the United States, which have ratified or enacted an UNCITRAL-prepared convention or other text. This process, in addition to providing technical assistance to member states, has enhanced the internationalization of commercial law standards.

International Criminal Court

The United Nations continued in 1997 to review a draft treaty to create an international criminal court which would have jurisdiction to prosecute individuals who commit crimes of serious concern to the international community as a whole, including genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

In 1994 the General Assembly established an *ad hoc* committee to review the major substantive and administrative issues arising out of the draft text, which had been submitted by the International Law Commission. That committee met for 4 weeks in 1995. On the basis of its work, the General Assembly, in resolution 50/46, decided to establish a Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) to study further the issues raised by the ILC text and prepare a widely acceptable draft text of a treaty for consideration at a diplomatic conference.

The PrepCom met for 6 weeks in 1996, and again for a total of 6 weeks in 1997. The United States supports creation of a fair, efficient and effective international criminal court and is playing an active role in the PrepCom. The PrepCom has made substantial progress in isolating issues and compiling proposals. Nevertheless, much work remains to reach agreement on major policy matters, such as,

- Which crimes should fall within the jurisdiction of the court and the definitions of those crimes;
- When the court should have jurisdiction *vis-a-vis* national criminal justice systems;
- How a case should get started and, in particular, what role the Security Council should play in that process; and
- The nature of the overall relationship of the court to the United Nations, particularly in terms of financing and oversight.

Also, important technical work needs to be completed on such matters as the general principles of criminal law that should guide the court, the

court's rules of procedure and elements of the crimes within the court's jurisdiction.

In December 1997 the General Assembly adopted resolution 52/160 by consensus. It recognized the progress of the PrepCom to date, reaffirmed that the PrepCom would meet once more for 3 weeks, March 16–April 3, 1998, and decided that a diplomatic conference would be held in Rome June 15–July 17, 1998, to finalize and adopt the convention establishing an international criminal court. The General Assembly further decided to place the establishment of the proposed court on its agenda for the 53rd session.

Decade of International Law

In resolution 44/23 of November 17, 1989, the General Assembly declared the period 1990–1999 the UN Decade of International Law (UN Decade). The four major goals of the UN decade are: to promote acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law; promote means and methods for the peaceful settlement of disputes between states, including resort to and full respect for the International Court of Justice; encourage progressive development of international law and its codification; and encourage the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law. In 1997 the General Assembly adopted a program of action presented by the Governments of Russia and the Netherlands that is dedicated to the centennial of the first International Peace Conference (held in 1899) and aimed at contributing to the further development of the themes of the first and second International Peace Conferences. This program of action does not entail budgetary implications for the United Nations.

Many of the Decade's activities have been in implementation of the last goal. In particular, recent advances in technology have facilitated the wider dissemination of international law. The International Court of Justice has launched an effective Internet web site, providing immediate access to ICJ judgments and oral pleadings. In 1997 the General Assembly encouraged the UN Secretariat to continue developing a policy of providing Internet access to UN treaty information.

Under its Rule of Law Program, the United States has provided grants to governments and nongovernmental organizations to enable them to gain access to the Internet and computer databases containing treaty texts and other international legal materials. The United States has actively supported the Decade and encouraged U.S. bar associations and other relevant organizations to actively participate.

Host Country Relations

The UN General Assembly established the 15-member Committee on Relations with the Host Country in 1971 to address issues relating to the implementation of the UN Headquarters Agreement and the Convention

on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations. The Committee was particularly busy in 1997. There were 10 meetings of the Committee, 3 meetings of a working group on the use of diplomatic motor vehicles and 2 informal consultations on the parking issue.

Committee discussion focused primarily on the following topics: security of missions and the safety of their personnel; privileges and immunities; motor vehicles, parking and related matters; travel restrictions; and indebtedness/health insurance.

The most controversial issues involved the relations of the UN diplomatic community with the host city of New York. The first of the issues was brought to the attention of the Committee by the Representatives of Russia and Belarus. An altercation between New York City police and two diplomats of the Russian and Belarus UN Missions occurred on December 29, 1996, and quickly became a highly charged matter with charges and counter-charges appearing almost daily in the press. The diplomats raised the issue in the Committee because they felt the actions of the police were a "flagrant violation of their diplomatic immunities." The Committee urged the host country to become involved and investigate the conflicting accounts. The issue was ultimately resolved by the Belarus, Russian and U.S. Missions.

The second of these issues involved the proposed implementation of a new parking program for diplomats based in New York City. The Deputy Mayor of New York introduced the program to Committee members on March 10, with implementation of the program scheduled for April 1. Committee members challenged certain aspects of the program, and, after considerable deliberation, the Committee decided to set up a working group to address the problem, and to seek an opinion from the UN Legal Counsel. Subsequently, the Legal Counsel indicated that, in his opinion, some aspects of the program were not consistent with international law. Further discussions ensued with the City of New York to modify aspects of the program. Committee members, by a vote of 13 to 1 (U.S.) recommended that the issue be moved to the General Assembly. On April 18 the U.S. Delegation advised the Committee that implementation of the program had been deferred. Accordingly, the issue was not moved to the General Assembly. Discussions with the City of New York to develop an improved diplomatic parking program have not yet been concluded.

On December 15 the General Assembly adopted a resolution, "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country," by consensus. The resolution calls upon the host country to continue its efforts with respect to the parking issue, and to continue to promote compliance of local authorities with international norms concerning diplomatic privileges and immunities. On another matter, the resolution requests that the Committee review its membership and composition. Finally, the resolution expressed the Committee's appreciation to the host country for its work in maintain-

ing appropriate conditions for the work of the missions accredited to the United Nations. (Resolution 52/159.)

International Terrorism

The General Assembly adopted by consensus on December 15 two resolutions related to terrorism: "Measures to eliminate international terrorism," (Resolution 52/165) and "International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings." (Resolution 52/164.)

The "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" resolution reaffirmed the "Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism" which was initially adopted in 1994, and was supplemented in 1996. The declaration unequivocally condemns all acts, methods and practices of terrorism, and also reaffirms that perpetrators of terrorist acts are excluded from refugee protection. Also included in the resolution was a decision to continue the work of the *ad hoc* committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210. Meetings are scheduled for February 1998 and during the General Assembly in the fall of 1998, to work on a convention on nuclear terrorism.

The resolution on terrorist bombings adopted the text of the "International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings" and will open the instrument for signature at UN Headquarters January 1998–December 1999. The United States plans to sign the convention when it opens for signature in January 1998.

Strengthening the Role of the United Nations

The Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization held its 22nd annual session January 27–February 7, 1997. A resolution adopting the report of the Committee's work, and a resolution on its agenda item concerning "Implementation of Charter provisions related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions," were debated and adopted during the UN General Assembly's Sixth Committee meetings in the fall. The resolutions were subsequently adopted, without votes, by the General Assembly on December 15, 1997. (Resolutions 52/161 and 52/162.)

The Charter Committee recommended to the General Assembly for its consideration and adoption an amendment to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly which would require that all regional groups be represented in the elected management arm or "Bureau" of each of the Main Committees. The Charter Committee also recommended to the General Assembly that it invite member states and state parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, as well as the Court itself, to submit their comments on the consequences that the increase in the volume of cases before the Court has on its operation. Both of the Charter Committee's recommended actions were taken by the General Assembly.

International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the Former Yugoslavia

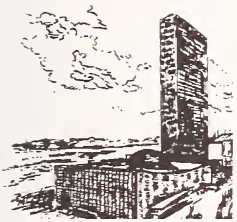
The International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia have jurisdiction over genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. The UN Security Council established the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in May 1993, and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in November 1994. The Tribunals share a Chief Prosecutor, Justice Louise Arbour of Canada, who assumed her position on October 1, 1996. The Chief Prosecutor and the Deputy Prosecutor for the ICTY are located in The Hague. The Rwanda Tribunal hears cases in Arusha, Tanzania, and the office of its Deputy Prosecutor is located in Kigali, Rwanda.

As of the end of 1997, the ICTY had charged 79 individuals (plus an additional, unknown number of persons who may be named in sealed indictments) with genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. Twenty-two indictees were in custody. The voluntary surrender of 10 Croatian indictees in October significantly increased the number of indictees in custody to the point that the Tribunal's resources and staff were utilized to capacity. Three of the indictees were released after the Office of the Prosecutor determined the evidence against them was not sufficiently strong to warrant trial. On August 27 the Security Council passed resolution 1126 to extend the terms of the three judges assigned to the *Celebici* case beyond the original November deadline to allow them to finish their work. In late December, the General Assembly approved a substantial increase in the Tribunal's budget to ensure that it has the resources to respond to the anticipated additional caseload. Of the five cases considered by the ICTY in 1997, two defendants were found guilty and have appealed while the other three cases are ongoing.

As of the end of 1997, the ICTR had issued indictments charging 35 individuals with war crimes and related offenses. Twenty-three are in custody. In December 1997 a U.S. magistrate in Texas refused to surrender an additional indictee to the Tribunal. The U.S. Government was disappointed with the decision and believes the indictee should be surrendered and that there is a sound legal basis to do so. The Administration is exploring its options. The ICTR considered three cases in 1997; none has yet been concluded.

In early 1997, the UN Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) issued a report on its investigation of alleged mismanagement of the ICTR. The United States and other concerned governments have pressed the ICTR to work to correct the deficiencies and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Tribunal. Many of the deficiencies identified by the OIOS have been addressed by the ICTR.

Part 7



Administration and Budget

Current Financial Crisis of the United Nations

The UN's financial situation continued to deteriorate throughout 1997. By the end of the year, the United Nations was owed nearly $2.1 billion on outstanding assessments for its regular budget, peacekeeping operations and the two International War Crimes Tribunals. Per UN records, the United States accounted for $1.3 billion of the total amount owed.

In a presentation in September on the status of the UN's financial situation, UN Under Secretary General Joseph Connor indicated that the UN regular budget would have a cash deficit of $272 million by the end of 1997, as compared to $197 million 1 year earlier. The total cash available in the peacekeeping accounts was estimated to be $670 million; however, because $272 million would be required to finance the cash deficit in the regular budget, the true amount available at the end 1997 was estimated to be $398 million. One year ago, the comparable level was $677 million. Connor also indicated that, by the end of 1997, the total amount owed for reimbursements for peacekeeping troop and equipment costs would be about $1,175 million. This figure takes into account estimated reimbursements totaling $270 million during 1997.

The U.S. arrears situation continued to be a major point of discussion in the United Nations in 1997. U.S. draft legislation, which would have provided $712 million in arrears funding for the United Nations, subject to achievement of certain reform benchmarks, was derailed in the Congress in November due to an extraneous issue involving international family planning. This last-minute action had a highly negative impact on U.S. credibility in the United Nations and likely played an important role in the U.S. failure to secure a reduction in the assessment ceiling rate for the UN regular budget. In addition to intensified criticism by other UN member states, the U.S. arrears situation also brought the United States closer to loss-of-vote in the General Assembly, per Article 19 of the UN Charter.

UN Budget

On December 22, 1997, the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus resolution 52/221, the UN program budget for the 1998–1999 bien-

nium. As approved, the 1998–1999 UN budget of $2,532,331,200 is within the maximum level urged by the United States ($2,533,000,000) and reflects several reform measures proposed by the UN Secretary General under his so-called Track I and II initiatives. These include resources for the newly created position of Deputy Secretary General and the new development account in the UN regular budget. The latter is to be financed by redeployment of administrative and efficiency savings that are generated in other parts of the UN budget. For 1998–1999, approximately $13 million is appropriated for the new account.

The 1998–1999 UN budget also reflects a new budgeting procedure which "nets out" from UN expenditures the costs of certain activities that are jointly financed by the United Nations and other UN entities. The activities include the Joint Inspection Unit, International Civil Service Commission, and conference and security services at the UN office in Vienna. The effect of the new net-budgeting procedure amounts to a reduction of approximately $46 million in overall expenditures in the 1998–1999 UN budget.

The General Assembly also approved by consensus resolution 52/213, the revised budget level for the 1996–1997 biennium. The approved level of $2,542,071,900 represents a decrease of $61,209,000 from the previous revised level of $2,603,280,900, as approved 1 year earlier. The decrease is primarily attributable to favorable exchange rates and savings in administrative costs. In accord with resolution 52/221, the General Assembly decided to apply the $61,209,000 toward the financing of the budget for the 1998–1999 biennium, thus reducing the level of member assessments for this period. Overall, the 1996–1997 UN budget declined by approximately $66.2 million over the course of the biennium. The initial level of $2,608,274,000, as approved in December 1995, was reduced to $2,603,280,900 a year later, and further reduced to $2,542,071,900 in December 1997. The decline represents a significant reversal of the past trend of rising UN budgets.

Audit Reports

The Board of Auditors (composed of auditors general from three member states) serves as external auditor for the United Nations and its separately administered funds and programs. The Fifth Committee considered the Board's 1996 annual reports and financial statements on the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). The Chairman of the Board of Auditors, Sir John Bourn (United Kingdom), introduced the reports and, thereafter, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) expressed the views of the ACABQ on the reports of the Board. The U.S. Delegation expressed strong support for UNHCR's efforts to implement the Board's recommendations, which include examining the high cost for program delivery and administrative

support, improving the manner in which consultants are used and remedying the continuing failure of implementing partners to obtain audit certifications. In the case of UNITAR, the U.S. Delegation regretted that a strategy had not been developed to address satisfactorily the long-standing deficits in its special purpose grants.

On the recommendation of the Fifth Committee, the General Assembly on December 22 approved by consensus a resolution covering UNHCR, UNITAR and the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors. (Resolution 52/212.) The resolution, among other things, commends the work of the Board of Auditors, takes note of measures undertaken by UNITAR and UNHCR to implement auditors' recommendations, and recommends that UNHCR take steps to improve its procurement and consultant contracting practices. At the insistence of the U.S. Delegation, the resolution also requests that the Board further improve its reports by including short executive summaries, highlighted text boxes and more concise narrative. The resolution also endorses the request of the ACABQ to UNITAR and UNHCR to consider the implications of submitting biennial reports and reiterates its request that UNHCR comply fully with the UN system accounting standards.

The General Assembly endorsed the Fifth Committee's recommendation to reappoint the Comptroller and Auditor General of the United Kingdom to the Board of Auditors for a 3-year term. (Decision 52/310.) The issue of the term of office of Board members will be discussed at a resumed session of the Fifth Committee in the spring of 1998. The Board had favored 6 years to: (a) bring the period of appointment in line with the biennial budget cycle; (b) ensure a smooth transition with respect to rotating assignments; and (c) allow Board members adequate time to familiarize themselves with the audited organizations. With respect to the Board's term of office, the U.S. Delegation expressed support for a 6-year term limit.

Financing Peacekeeping Operations

The year 1997 reflected a continued decline in the scope and costs of UN peacekeeping. The largest grouping of operations as to cost continues to be related to the implementation of the Dayton Accords. This included NATO responsibility for the military aspects of Bosnia and UN efforts on police reform and the peaceful reintegration of Eastern Slavonia into Croatia. Operations were completed in Liberia and in Guatemala. The operation in the Western Sahara was restructured and voter registration restarted as a result of the efforts of the Secretary General's Personal Envoy, former U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. The United States continued to press for reform of UN peacekeeping administration and financing in several related resolutions and for a reduction of the U.S. peacekeeping assessment rate to 25 percent.

The majority of the resolutions provided funding for operations approved in previous years. These were for the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan Heights (Resolution 50/20 B); UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) (Resolution 50/89 B);UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) (Resolutions 50/237 and 51/236); UN Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) (Resolution 51/3);UN Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) (Resolutions 50/238 and 51/237); UN Iraq/Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM) (Resolutions 50/234 and 51/234); UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) (Resolutions 50/236 and 51/235); UN Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) (Resolutions 50/243 and 51/154); UN Peace Forces (UNPF) (Resolutions 50/235 and 51/12); the UN Mission for the Referendum in the Western Sahara (MINURSO) (Resolution 51/2); and UN Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) (Resolutions 50/241 and 51/152), which funds the UN Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP) and the International Police Task Force (IPTF). New operations approved for funding in 1997 include the UN Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) (Resolution 51/228) and UN Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA) (Resolution 52/8) as the successor to the earlier mission in Angola. Both resolutions were adopted without a vote. Funding for the War Crimes Tribunals was approved for Rwanda through resolutions 50/213, 51/215 and 52/218 and for the former Yugoslavia through resolutions 50/212, 51/214 and 52/217. In the case of the Iraq/Kuwait border and Cyprus operations, the relevant resolutions continued the provisions established in 1993 for significant voluntary funding by the locally interested parties, i.e., Kuwait for UNIKOM and Greece and Cyprus for UNFICYP.

Scale of Assessments

By its resolution 52/215 of December 22, the General Assembly adopted by consensus the UN regular budget scale of assessments for the 3-year period, 1998–2000. The scale retains the 25 percent ceiling rate and most of the elements of the existing scale methodology, with some variation in their application. These include:

- A 6-year base period, using Gross National Product (GNP) as the fundamental measure of capacity to pay;
- The introduction of three decimal places in the scale, as compared to the previous two. The action also reduces the floor rate to 0.001 percent from the previous 0.01 percent;
- A reduction in the gradient for low per-capita-income (PCI) from 85 percent to 80 percent;
- The alternating use of debt flow in 1998 and debt stock in 1999 and 2000 in the calculations of relief for external debt; and

- The introduction of a more precise formula for the phasing out of the scheme of limits over the course of the 1998–2000 scale period.

Section C of resolution 52/215 takes note of the intention of the Committee on Contributions to review all elements of the scale methodology, including the base period, currency conversion rates, the low-per-capita-income adjustment and annual recalculation of the scale. Such a review could address reform measures advocated by the United States and other UN member states, especially the members of the European Union, concerning the methodology underlying the UN regular budget scale of assessments. For example, in the U.S. scale proposal submitted in spring 1997 to the Fifth Committee, the United States called for several measures that would make the UN scale simpler and more equitable. In addition to gradually lowering the ceiling rate from 25 to 22 and then to 20 percent, the United States proposed the following adjustments: establishment of a 3-year base period with annual recalculation of GNP; elimination of relief granted for external debt; a reduction to 75 percent in the gradient for low PCI; and the exclusion of the permanent members of the Security Council from relief granted under the low PCI formula.

The key issue for the United States in the scale negotiations was the reduction in the ceiling rate from 25 percent to a lower level. In accord with draft legislation concerning the U.S. arrears funding bill (the "Helms-Biden" legislation), the United States sought a reduction in the ceiling rate to 22 percent in 1998 and a further reduction to 20 percent by the year 2000. The U.S. proposal was not accepted by the General Assembly, perhaps in part due to the failure of the United States to enact the arrears funding bill, per the Helms-Biden legislation. However, the General Assembly agreed to language in the scale resolution (Section D) that left open the possibility of revising the approved scale for the years 1999 and 2000, including the ceiling rate:

> Decides without prejudice to rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly to consider reviewing the scale for the years 1999–2000 during its resumed 52nd session, in the light of all relevant factors, including the periodic reports of the Secretary General on the status of contributions, and to make a determination in this respect early enough to refer this matter to the Committee on Contributions during the 52nd session of the General Assembly.

Some UN member states, especially the members of the European Union, indicated that any reopening of the scale negotiations would be contingent upon the U.S. ability to secure an acceptable funding package for payment of its UN arrears.

Concerning peacekeeping, the General Assembly took no action during the general debate to revise the UN's *ad hoc* scale of assessments for peacekeeping operations, including the establishment of a maximum rate of 25 percent. Since October 1, 1995, the United States has been prohibited by domestic law from paying more than 25 percent toward the

assessed costs of UN peacekeeping operations. At the same time, the U.S. assessment rate under the UN's *ad hoc* scale has exceeded 30 percent. The difference in the respective rates has resulted in U.S. withholdings which, on a cumulative basis, now exceed $250 million. Without action by the General Assembly in establishing a 25 percent maximum rate, the U.S. withholdings will continue to increase with each new assessment bill rendered by the United Nations.

Committee for Program and Coordination

The Committee for Program and Coordination (CPC), with 34 members elected to regional seats, is the main subsidiary organ of the ECOSOC and the General Assembly for planning, programming and coordination. Its terms of reference are to review and recommend priorities among UN programs as defined in the medium-term plan, give guidance on translating legislation into programs, develop evaluation procedures, assess the results of current activities and the continuing validity of legislation, and make recommendations on the Secretary General's program budget outline. It also considers programs and activities of the UN system on a sector-by-sector basis to enable ECOSOC to ensure their compatibility and complementarity. During 1997 the CPC met in New York in regular session June 9–July 3 and a special resumed session October 13–17.

Regular Session. The main work was to consider whether the narrative of the proposed 1998–1999 program budget was consistent with the medium-term plan. It recommended approval of most sections but could not reach agreement on those for human rights, construction, public information and administrative services.

With respect to Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) evaluation reports, the CPC commended the report on the statistics program, endorsed several recommendations in the report on the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, took note of the triennial review of social development programs, and took note of the report on UNEP and the UN office in Nairobi, while looking forward to full implementation of its recommendations.

The CPC took note of the Secretary General's note on the impact of reform on ECLAC. It also took note of the annual report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) and urged that the ACC take the Secretary General's foreword on its role—e.g., in advancing reform, encouraging teamwork—as a guide for future activities. Also, it took note of reports on the System-wide Plan for African Recovery and Development and the Special Initiative on Africa, and recommended establishment of a functional linkage between the latter and the new agenda.

On coordination questions, the CPC generally commended a report by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on coordination of policy and programming frameworks for more effective development cooperation.

Resumed Session. The Committee recommended General Assembly approval of two sections of the program budget that were not available in the regular session, but revealed polarized views on the sections affected by the Secretary General's reform proposals. The United States, supported by other like-minded delegations, stated its support for the reform proposals as a package and its view that the CPC should not attempt to "rewrite" the budget narratives, cutting across work currently under way in the General Assembly plenary. In the end, the CPC did not make any substantive recommendations to the General Assembly on those sections.

The function and work methods of the CPC (as well as the ACABQ, the Board of Auditors and the JIU) were reviewed in the Fifth Committee in the context of discussions on a draft resolution on "strengthening external oversight mechanisms." Provisions regarding the CPC included reaffirmation of its composition, role and function and a decision that the CPC should propose criteria for and make proposals on priorities among programs. Since several provisions in this package resolution proved to be controversial, and time was limited, action was deferred to the resumed session of the 52nd General Assembly.

Joint Inspection Unit

The Joint Inspection Unit (JIU), an external oversight body accountable to member states, conducts inspections related to efficient and effective operations in the UN system. Eleven inspectors serve in their personal capacity as experts on the UN system. John D. Fox of the United States began a 5-year term of office January 1, 1996.

The JIU issued six reports in 1997: Strengthening Field Representation in the UN System; UN Publications: Enhancing Cost-Effectiveness in Implementing Legislative Mandates; Execution of Humanitarian Assistance Programs through Implementing Partners; Coordination at Headquarters and Field Level between UN Agencies Involved in Peacebuilding; The Challenge of Outsourcing; and Training Institutions in the UN System—Programs and Activities.

The JIU's annual reports for 1996 and 1997, its work programs for the next two biennia and the Secretary General's report on implementation of JIU recommendations were reviewed in the Fifth Committee. The United States commented positively on JIU's issuance of standards and guidelines for inspections but stressed that they must be applied systematically. The United States also suggested that the proposed compliance tracking system should focus only on reports with specific practical recommendations. The chairman of the JIU, in his appearance before the Fifth Committee, sought approval of an enhanced system for following up on JIU recommendations. At the same time, he stated that JIU's effectiveness as an oversight body can be improved only if member states elect better inspectors.

The function and work methods of the JIU—together with that of the ACABQ, Board of Auditors and CPC—were considered in the Fifth Committee in the context of discussion of a draft resolution on "strengthening of external oversight bodies." Provisions for the JIU included reaffirming its role and shortening the term of office of inspectors to 4 years. Since several provisions of this resolution proved to be controversial and time was limited, the Committee deferred action to the resumed session of the 52nd General Assembly.

International Civil Service Commission

The International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), a 15-member body of recognized experts, is responsible for making recommendations on salaries, allowances, benefits and other conditions of service for employees of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. Lucretia Myers, Senior Advisor, Retirement and Insurance Service, at the Office of Personnel Management, continued to be the U.S. member in 1997 and was reelected for the 4-year term beginning January 1, 1998. The Commission met in Paris and New York for its 45th and 46th sessions, respectively. The Fifth Committee considered the ICSC's annual report in November and December.

At the ICSC sessions, the Commissioners discussed, debated, took decisions and developed recommendations regarding a wide variety of topics. Based on these recommendations, the General Assembly took the following key actions:

- Reconfirmed the continued use of the Noblemaire principle (use of the highest-paid civil service) for establishing salary levels for professional staff;
- Requested that the Commission continue monitoring the need to change comparator civil services;
- Approved, for professional staff, a 3.1 percent increase in the base/floor salary scale by consolidating post adjustment into base on a "no gain-no loss" basis (i.e., with a commensurate reduction in post adjustment), effective March 1, 1998;
- Requested that the ICSC finish its review of the post adjustment system for Geneva;
- Endorsed modifications made by the ICSC to the methodology for surveying conditions of employment for general services staff;
- Endorsed decisions by the Commission on determining both the non-pensionable component of salaries and the dependent children's allowance for general services staff;
- Endorsed modifications to the methodology for determining the level of the education grant decided on by the ICSC;

- Invited executive heads of UN system organizations to develop performance management programs consistent with the Commission's guidelines;
- Invited the ICSC to continue its review of travel entitlements of staff; and
- Requested that the ICSC submit a report on the possibility of providing an allowance to personnel who leave families behind while on mission assignment.

The General Assembly adopted resolution 52/216 on the report of the International Civil Service Commission without a vote.

Human Resources Management

Under human resources management, the Fifth Committee considered a very wide variety of issues at the resumed session of the 51st General Assembly and at the regular session of the 52nd General Assembly.

At the resumed session of the 51st General Assembly, the Fifth Committee adopted an omnibus resolution that included the following key actions:

- Urged the Secretary General to pursue, as soon as possible, full implementation of his strategy for the management of human resources;
- Requested that the Secretary General take a variety of steps needed to establish responsibility and accountability of managers for the proper use of human resources, to ensure that procedures to monitor and control such accountability exist before certain authority is delegated, and to ensure that sanctions can be imposed if warranted;
- Requested that the Secretary General expedite actions to simplify and streamline personnel rules and procedures;
- Requested that the Secretary General ensure that the recruitment process helps ensure equitable representation of member states at senior levels and that the recruitment process is enhanced by, *inter alia*, restricting the use of temporary appointments, and implementing changes in placement procedures through national competitive examinations;
- Urged the Secretary General to implement fully and to monitor the strategic plan of action for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat;
- Requested that the Secretary General take actions to allow the mandate of the Focal Point for Women to be fulfilled, to continue his work on creating a gender-sensitive work place and to develop a family leave program;

- Requested that the Secretary General lower to 70 percent the number of permanent appointments in geographical posts;
- Requested that the Secretary General ensure that consultants are selected on a more competitive basis, limiting recourse to sole candidates to a minimum and to prepare policy guidelines on the employment of consultants;
- Requested that the Secretary General put priority on instituting a career development policy; and
- Decided to preclude certain staff appointed for less than 1 year from being appointed to their current posts within 6 months of the end of their current service.

The General Assembly adopted resolution 51/226 on human resources management without a vote.

At the 52nd General Assembly, the Fifth Committee adopted an omnibus resolution with the following key actions:

- Approved the Secretary General's family leave plan proposal;
- Encouraged the Secretary General to continue to improve the performance appraisal system, and approved his plan for implementing a performance award system; and
- Decided that the restrictions on certain staff from applying for their own positions within 6 months of the end of their current service, which was approved in resolution 51/226, would apply on a prospective basis only.

The General Assembly adopted resolution 52/219 on human resources management without a vote.

Employment of Americans

The Department of State assists qualified U.S. citizens in competing for professional positions in the United Nations and other international organizations. The Department's UN Employment Information and Assistance Unit, along with numerous Executive Branch agencies, assists these organizations by disseminating international vacancy information to Americans across the country. In a typical year, the Department provides direct assistance to hundreds of Americans and general information about employment opportunities in international organizations to thousands of others. U.S. Missions to the United Nations and other international organizations in New York, Geneva, Montreal, Nairobi, Paris, Rome and Vienna, as well as some embassies, also provide direct support for this function through regular contacts with agency officials.

The following chart shows the total number of Americans in professional and senior positions in all UN agencies[1] as of December 31, 1997.

	Professional and Senior Staff		
	Total	U.S. Number	U.S. Percent
UN Secretariat	5,041	647	12.8
UN Subsidiary Bodies	6,878	621	9.0
UN Specialized Agencies and IAEA	7,003	635	9.1

The UN Secretariat and some of the specialized agencies have established a system of "desirable ranges" to estimate member states' geographic representation. The following chart lists those UN agencies which have such ranges, and the number and status of Americans on board as of December 1997. (These figures represent only that portion of the agencies' total professional posts funded from the assessed budgets and "subject to geographic distribution.")

UN Agency	Total Posts	U.S. Desirable Range or Quota	Americans on Board		Current Status
		Range	Number	Percent	
UN[a]	2,407	326–441	368	15.3	In range
FAO	913	171–228	107	11.7	Underrepresented
ICAO	207	27	13	6.3	Underrepresented
ILO	608	94–126	73	12.0	Underrepresented
WHO	1,029	174–237	142	13.8	Underrepresented

a. Secretariat

During 1997 the failure of the United States and other member states to meet their financial obligations to the UN Secretariat, its subsidiary agencies and the specialized agencies along with pressures for reform has noticeably affected the staffing decisions of these organizations. The UN

1. Excluding peacekeeping missions.

Secretariat limited hiring throughout much of the year, and many of the other agencies cut back significantly on their external hires or initiated staff cuts.

In 1997 Americans continued to hold the top position in the following UN agencies: UNICEF (Carol Bellamy, Executive Director); UNDP (Gus Speth, Administrator); UPU (Tom Leavey, Director General); WFP (Catherine Bertini, Executive Director); WIPO (Arpad Bogsch, Director General); and IOM (James Purcell, Director General).

Throughout the year, the U.S. Government continued to give special attention to recruiting qualified women for UN positions and encouraged UN agencies to hire and promote more women. At this time, American women represent 49 percent of all Americans in professional and senior positions in the UN Secretariat, and 34 percent of Americans in all UN agencies.

In addition to helping recruit for permanent, career positions throughout the UN system, the Department of State provided candidates for UN peacekeeping and other special operations.

The United States has a long-standing policy of lending professional staff to international organizations either by detail (in which the employee remains on the U.S. payroll but serves at the international organization) or by direct transfer (in which the employee is paid by the organization but retains reemployment rights with the U.S. agency). These arrangements usually last fewer than 5 years but may last as long as 8 years if it is considered to be in the national interest. The United States also continues to support a limited number of Junior Professional Officer positions at UNHCR and FAO.

Part 8

Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

FAO, established in 1945 in Rome, is one of the oldest and largest of the UN specialized agencies. It is the chief international center for data and expertise in the fields of agriculture (including plant and animal genetic resources), fisheries, forestry and food-related issues, and the only source of comprehensive data for all agricultural commodities, forestry and fishery products and related ecosystems.

FAO was established to promote enhanced food security—through improved nutrition and expanded production and distribution of food and agricultural products—and to improve the lives of rural populations. Its in-depth institutional knowledge of farming and natural resources and its response capability in pest control emergencies are key assets for U.S. agricultural, economic and humanitarian interests.

FAO develops international standards (e.g., trade standardization programs, Codex Alimentarius and the International Plant Protection Convention) and promotes measures to ensure food safety and safe agricultural chemical use; sponsors international consultation and dialogue on agricultural development and food policy; and provides technical assistance and training for developing countries to advance sustainable agriculture and enhanced food production. Through training and field programs, FAO also combats pests and diseases, disseminates techniques for more effective food production and storage, and promotes environmentally sound agricultural practices.

FAO's highest policy-making body, the biennial Conference, is composed of all 175 FAO member states plus the European Community, which is a member organization. The Conference approves FAO's program and policy objectives, and adopts its program of work and budget. Senegal's Jacques Diouf, elected Director General in 1993, will serve through December 1999. The 49-member Council, elected by the Conference, serves as the interim governing body.

FAO derives its operating funds from its regular program budget, funded through the assessed contributions of its members, and from extrabudgetary activities carried out with other international organizations and financial institutions and bilateral trust fund donors. FAO's regular

program of work and budget operates on a biennial cycle and is approved by the FAO Conference. Regular program support results from assessed contributions, based on the UN assessment scale. At 25 percent, the United States was assessed $80,975,000 for calendar year 1997 (FY 1998).

The United States and other major contributors continue to encourage FAO to be more active in the system-wide UN reform process and more transparent in its decision-making. The United States also continues to seek additional reforms within the organization to improve governance and to further streamline its activities.

Development of the 1998–1999 program of work and budget dominated FAO deliberations during 1997. The meetings of the Committees on Commodity Problems, Forestry, Fisheries and Agriculture all provided input to the budget process. The United States participated actively in all Committee meetings and made clear its concerns on programmatic priorities and the budget level. The FAO Conference met in November 1997 and adopted a no-growth budget of $650 million for 1998–1999. In addition, the Conference approved revisions to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) that will enhance the ability of that convention to set plant quarantine standards. FAO's Committee on World Food Security (CFS), the body charged with monitoring follow-up to the 1996 World Food Summit, met in April 1997 to establish guidelines for carrying out its monitoring functions. The United States was a leader in demonstrating progress in Food Summit follow-up and in encouraging other countries to take seriously commitments made at the Summit.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

IAEA member states total 127. The 35-member Board of Governors, responsible for providing overall direction and guidance with respect to the Agency's policies and program implementation, met in March, June, September and December. The General Conference, which consists of all members and carries out general oversight of the Agency's work, held its annual meeting in September. In 1997, of the 659 filled posts at IAEA which were subject to geographic distribution, 105 were held by Americans, constituting 15.9 percent. Mohamed El-Baradei (Egypt), former head of External Relations, assumed office December 1, 1997, as the Agency's fourth Director General.

The highlight of the year in the safeguards field was approval by the Board of a Model Protocol Additional to Safeguards Agreements on May 15. Concluded protocols with individual states will significantly enhance the Agency's ability to detect undeclared nuclear activities. By year-end 1997, seven states had concluded the new protocol; one had entered into force (Australia), while two others (Armenia and Georgia) will implement

it provisionally pending entry into force. The Board also approved new conventional safeguards agreements with three states (Bahamas, Georgia and Guyana). A total of seven safeguards agreements entered into force in seven states in 1997 (Algeria, Bahamas, Belize, Czech Republic, Estonia, Guyana and Slovenia). The IAEA performed approximately 2,500 on-site inspections at 602 facilities and other locations in 68 states throughout the year.

Important work continued on nuclear safety projects to upgrade regulatory and legislative infrastructure in the former Soviet Union and Eastern European states. Safety issues were identified in aging VVER (Russian water cooled and moderated reactor, used for the production of electricity) and RBMK (Russian high-powered, channel-type production reactor, used to produce plutonium) reactors. Procedures were established for registration and control of radioactive resources in developing countries; concurrently, a series of standards were put into place for nuclear, radiation, waste and transportation safety. With strong U.S. backing, two new international conventions were successfully concluded and opened for signature in September 1997: Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, and the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage.

The U.S. regular assessment is approximately 25 percent of the IAEA's total resources from assessments and amounted to approximately $58 million in 1997. The United States also remained the largest single contributor of voluntary support to the IAEA. The U.S. extrabudgetary contribution of $36 million went to support the following: Technical Cooperation Fund; U.S. program of technical assistance to safeguards; cost-free experts; in-country technical projects; U.S-hosted training courses and fellowships; efforts to improve physical security of nuclear material; nuclear safety projects; and application of safeguards to excess defense material in the United States.

In addition to its routine inspection activities, the IAEA also carried out important nonproliferation functions in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Iraq in 1997. On the basis of a decision by the Board of Governors following a request by the UN Security Council in 1994, the IAEA maintained continuous inspections in the Yongbyon area in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in order to monitor the freeze on the country's graphite moderated reactors and related facilities. The IAEA also implemented in Iraq the mandate assigned to it by resolutions of the UN Security Council. As of August 31, IAEA inspectors had conducted 400 monitoring inspections at some 130 locations in Iraq, 43 of which were inspected for the first time. No indication of prohibited activities, equipment, or material was detected during these inspections.

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

ICAO, established in 1944 and a UN specialized agency since 1947, fosters the safe and orderly growth of international civil aviation. ICAO sets international standards and recommended practices for civil aviation, thus ensuring its safety and security worldwide, and provides technical expertise for countries in matters of air safety and security. In 1997 the membership of ICAO was 185 states. Of the 281 professional staff of ICAO, 12 were U.S. citizens.

In 1997 ICAO began a groundbreaking initiative to make the current, voluntary Safety Oversight Program more assertive and effective. In November 1997 a worldwide meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation was held to consider proposals to strengthen and improve the program. The meeting recommended the introduction of regular, mandatory and systematic safety assessments/audits of all member states. It also recommended that transparency in the disclosure of safety assessment reports be ensured.

The U.S. Government provided financial and in-kind resources for the Safety Oversight and Aviation Security Programs of ICAO. During the year, ICAO carried out an additional 25 safety oversight assessments for a program total of 57. These assessments identify areas where member states need assistance in meeting their ICAO obligations for providing safety oversight of commercial air transport operations.

During 1997 ICAO continued to work toward the implementation of the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), an advanced satellite air navigation system using the U.S. Global Positioning System (GPS) and the Russian Global Navigation Satellite System (GLONASS) for the use of civil aviation. Through the ICAO Committee on Aviation and Environmental Protection, ICAO also continued its work on measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from aviation.

The United States proposed during 1997 to modernize the Warsaw Convention, which concerns just compensation for passenger victims of air disasters and other accidents. The Legal Committee examined the issue and agreed to continue its work during 1998 through a study group.

ICAO continued to take measures to become more efficient and responsive to the rapid changes in international civil aviation. Among other things, ICAO enacted procedures to streamline the development of its international standards, and strengthened internal oversight to provide greater transparency and accountability in ICAO programs.

ICAO's budget for 1997 was $46.5 million, of which the U.S. share, at 25 percent, was $11.6 million. This amount was paid in December 1997. The United States also was assessed $570 thousand for its share of costs of

the ICAO Joint Financing Program. The total U.S. payment in 1997 to ICAO was $12.67 million.

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

IFAD has a mandate unique among multilateral lending institutions in that it focuses exclusively on increasing food production, improving living conditions and enhancing rural incomes in developing countries through loans and grants for projects specifically benefiting the rural poor. In 1997 IFAD's total commitments of $419 million included 29 loans ($389 million) and 102 grants ($30 million), thus bringing its total commitments since beginning operations in 1978 to $6.1 billion. IFAD's membership of 159 countries consists of List A (OECD, 22 countries), List B (OPEC, 12 countries) and List C (developing countries, 125 countries).[1] IFAD's current President, Fawzi Al-Sultan (Kuwait) was elected to a second 4-year term in February 1997. IFAD Headquarters are in Rome.

In February 1997 IFAD members agreed to a Fourth Replenishment of the Fund's resources. A total of $460.2 million was mobilized in connection with the replenishment, of which $40.6 million were complementary contributions from the Netherlands and Belgium. Of the total $419.6 million pledged to the replenishment, List A will provide $319.7 million, while List B will provide $39.3 million, and List C, $60.6 million. As part of the replenishment package, IFAD members also agreed to restructure the way IFAD is governed. Formerly, each category grouping (OECD, OPEC and developing countries) held six seats on the IFAD Executive Board. IFAD's new governance structure abolishes categories in favor of informal groupings of "Lists." List A now holds eight seats on the Executive Board, while List B holds four. List C (developing countries) retains six seats. Voting rights are more closely linked to financial support for IFAD, although special provision was made so that developing countries (other than OPEC countries) did not lose any voting rights as a result of the change.

The U.S. share in the Fourth Replenishment is $30 million, or 6.5 percent of the total. Although the United States is the third largest donor to the replenishment, it remains by far IFAD's largest contributor in cumulative terms.

---

1. These totals would be 160 (membership) and 126 (developing countries), if "Yugoslavia" were included.

International Labor Organization (ILO)

The International Labor Organization, founded in 1919, is the only tripartite organization in the UN system. Based in Geneva, it has 174 member countries represented by governments, workers and employers. The ILO is the only international agency in which the private sector participates fully with government.

The ILO's mandate is to advance humane conditions of labor and social stability around the world by promoting democracy and human rights; employment and the alleviation of poverty; and equality and protection of working people. The ILO seeks to define common standards of decency applying to workers among nations involved in international trade. American workers and business can compete fairly if international labor standards help level the playing field. With the ILO's tripartite system, U.S. business and workers benefit by participating in the development of international labor standards that affect their operations.

As the government of one of 10 countries of "chief industrial importance," the U.S. Government has a permanent seat on the ILO's 56-member Governing Body. In addition, an American worker (from the AFL-CIO) and an American employer (from the U.S. Council for International Business) have each won election to seats on the Governing Body. They speak and vote independently of the U.S. Government.

Government, worker and employer delegations from the United States actively participated in Governing Body meetings in March and November, and in the 85th International Labor Conference in June. U.S. Delegations also participated in four sectoral meetings during 1997: New Technologies and Employment in the Hotel, Catering and Tourism Sector; International Migration (by Workers); Iron and Steel Workforce of the Twenty-first Century; and Breaking Through the Glass Ceiling: Women in Management.

During 1997 financial and budgetary issues dominated much of the attention of the Governing Body and the June Conference. The chief U.S. Government budgetary objectives in 1997 in the ILO included reducing the ILO's budget for the 1998–1999 biennium and reducing the U.S. assessment rate to below 25 percent. Major substantive U.S. objectives were keeping up pressure on countries that violate worker rights and placement of a Declaration on Core Labor Standards with an attached follow-up mechanism on the agenda for consideration by the 1998 ILO Conference.

Progress toward these objectives was as follows:

- Despite substantial opposition, the ILO adopted a 1998–1999 budget that represented a 3.75 percent nominal decline in constant dollar terms. The June Conference declined to reduce the U.S. assessment

rate to below 25 percent but left open the possibility of a subsequent change should the United Nations take action to lower the ceiling below 25 percent. Budget priorities included the fight against child labor and revitalization of ILO standard setting activities. The United States supported the budget.

- Based on thorough study, the ILO's Committee on Freedom of Association in 1997 highlighted serious abuses of trade union rights in Nigeria, Sudan, Indonesia, Cuba and Colombia. The ILO's Committee on Application of Standards cited labor abuses in Iran, Myanmar (Burma), Morocco, Nigeria, Sudan and Swaziland, calling for special missions to Nigeria, Djibouti and North Korea. In each case, the United States strongly supported the consensus endorsing these steps.
- After considerable debate, the November Governing Body agreed to place consideration of the Declaration on Core Labor Standards and Follow-up Mechanism on the agenda of the 1998 Conference. The United States strongly backed the consensus authorizing this effort.

The United States sees the ILO as an important vehicle with which to highlight and attack child labor, a major U.S. priority. For instance, ILO programs in Bangladesh and Pakistan are removing children from industries and placing them in schools and rehabilitation centers. An ILO program in Brazil removes children from shoe factories. In some cases, these actions eliminated unfair competition to American workers from low cost exports produced by children. Other ILO child labor programs will withdraw children from such hazardous work in Latin America as harvesting flowers sprayed with pesticides.

Meanwhile, major meetings attended by U.S. Delegations in the Netherlands, Norway and Colombia—organized in close cooperation with the ILO—focused in 1997 on strategies to eradicate extreme forms of child labor such as slavery, debt bondage, pornography, narcotics trafficking/production, prostitution and other forms of dangerous work. The ILO is aiming to adopt a major new ILO convention on extreme forms of child labor in 1999. The United States strongly endorses this effort.

In the context of the Asian financial crisis in late 1997, ILO efforts to advise and assist the IMF and World Bank on inclusion of social safety nets and emergency public works and job creation programs support U.S. objectives. The ILO has also helped Asian states hit by the crisis to establish programs and systems to create jobs, to begin to retrain workers who have lost their jobs, and to engage in tripartite consultations on structural adjustment reforms involving labor law.

In 1997 the ILO adopted a new international convention on employment agencies regarding their operation, aimed at increasing the efficiency of labor markets and protecting job seekers using their services. The

United States strongly supported the convention; the vote was 347 (U.S.) to 5, with 30 abstentions. The ILO also adopted an amendment to its constitution to allow its June Conference by a two-thirds vote to abrogate a convention that is obsolete. Meanwhile, the ILO's Governing Body has identified a number of conventions for revision, consolidation or abrogation. The United States supports this reform process because it frees resources that can be devoted to monitoring compliance.

The U.S. assessment for calendar year 1997 was 84,028,000 Swiss francs, or approximately $60 million.

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

IMO membership increased in 1997 to 155 states with the acceptance of Mongolia and Samoa. In July 1997 the People's Republic of China resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong. As of that date Hong Kong, home of a major shipping registry, became a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and continues to be an associate member of IMO with the name of "Hong Kong, China." Macao is also an associate member. All members and associate members may participate in the IMO's biennial Assembly. The 20th IMO Assembly was held November 17–27, 1997.

The IMO's principal objectives are to foster cooperation among governments on technical matters affecting international shipping, to achieve the highest practicable standards for maritime safety and to prevent marine pollution. The IMO also develops conventions and treaties concerning international shipping, facilitates international maritime affairs and provides technical assistance in maritime matters to developing countries. The IMO tracks UNCED and Kyoto climate change-related issues in the Marine Environment Protection Committee, one of the major work programs.

The 32-member IMO Council, of which the United States has always been a member, is responsible for all functions between the Assembly's biennial meetings. In 1997 the Council met in regular session in June, and both before and after the 20th Assembly. The Council sessions primarily focused on issues of programming and budgeting, management, technical cooperation and draft resolutions to be forwarded to the 20th Assembly for approval. Specifically, the Council recommended adoption of a zero nominal growth budget for 1998–1999, the adoption of a program-based IMO Secretariat work program (where the budget clearly reflects the costs associated with detailed elements of the IMO's work program and priorities), and a renewal of the Secretary General's contract for another 4 years, until December 31, 2001. All these recommendations were approved by the Assembly. The United States also suggested that the IMO Secretariat present a zero nominal growth budget for its 2000–2001 fiscal year. After

an absence of several years, Liberia, with the second largest registered shipping tonnage, was reelected to the Council.

In 1997 the United States played a key role in the technical accomplishments of the IMO, which included: adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) to improve maritime safety; adoption of amendments to the International Convention of Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) to establish minimum training requirements for personnel serving on passenger ships; convening of an international conference to adopt a new Protocol to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) to reduce air pollution from ships; and convening of an international conference to adopt amendments to SOLAS to improve the safety of bulk carriers.

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

The International Monetary Fund, although not a member of the UN system, has a long-standing agreement to work in cooperation with the United Nations. The IMF provides a permanent forum for member states to review world economic trends, discuss the economic policies of individual members, promote international monetary cooperation, and enable the expansion and balanced growth of world trade.

The IMF also provides technical advice to member states and offers financial support to those countries suffering balance of payments difficulties that are taking steps to correct those problems. The IMF has been especially active in recent years in helping former Soviet states make the transition from command to market economies. The IMF supported Mexico and Argentina after Mexico's financial crisis of 1994–1995. In 1997 Fund members began implementing a debt relief initiative, which will reduce to sustainable levels the debt burden of those heavily indebted poor countries that have a track record of sound economic management. The IMF also has led the international response to the Asian financial crisis, mobilizing over $100 billion in multilateral and bilateral financing to restore market confidence in the affected countries and assist them in enacting sound economic reforms.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

The principal objective of the ITU is the promotion of international cooperation for the use of telecommunications. Established in 1865 as the International Telegraph Union, the ITU now serves as a forum where governments and the private telecommunications sector coordinate the establishment and operation of telecommunication networks and services. Dealing with technical issues of standardization, the work of the ITU has important commercial consequences. At the end of 1997, there were 187

member countries, with no additions during the year. Plenipotentiary Conferences, to which all ITU members are invited, are held every 4 years. The next Plenipotentiary will be in Minneapolis in October 1998.

ITU Council

The 46-member ITU Council, which serves as the governing body of the Union between Plenipotentiary Conferences, held its annual meeting in Geneva June 18–27. The Council set the 1998–1999 biennial budget at 327.6 million Swiss francs (about 234 million U.S. dollars), a 1.6 percent decrease from the 1996–1997 budget. The U.S. contribution to the ITU budget is approximately 6 percent. Private sector contributions, from companies participating in the work of the ITU, comprise about 15 percent of the ITU budget.

World Radiocommunications Conference

The biennial World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC) was held October 27–November 21 in Geneva. Issues covered by the WRC included continuation of the process of simplification of the Radio Regulations, allocation of additional radio spectrum for new commercial satellite systems, revision of the maritime mobile and aeronautical mobile regulations, and revision of the coordination procedures for high frequency broadcasting. This included the provision for digital service and changes to the coordination procedures for satellite systems to discourage hoarding satellite orbital slots. Of particular importance to the United States was the protection of the Global Positioning System (GPS) from efforts to obtain frequency allocation for a mobile satellite system that could cause interference with GPS aeronautical and maritime navigation systems.

UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

The United States has concluded that UNESCO has satisfactorily addressed the issues that led to U.S. withdrawal in December 1984. Nevertheless, budgetary constraints continue to impede U.S. entry. Accordingly, the United States pays no assessed contribution to UNESCO, but continued in 1997 to participate selectively in UNESCO programs that directly benefit U.S. national interests. These include:

- UNESCO's work to promote a free, independent and pluralistic press, particularly in emerging democracies;
- Numerous ocean research projects that enjoy strong support from the U.S. scientific community;
- The World Heritage Committee, which supports the 1972 World Heritage Convention, an initiative of the Nixon administration and today

the most widely accepted international conservation agreement;

- UNESCO education programs that seek to strengthen adult education worldwide; and
- UNESCO's successful efforts to finalize an international convention on mutual recognition of higher education degrees—work that directly benefits a multibillion dollar sector of the U.S. economy.

The United States was represented at UNESCO's 29th General Conference (October 21–November 13) by an Observer Delegation that included two public sector delegates appointed by the White House. Throughout 1997 the United States continued to encourage UNESCO's growing partnerships with the private sector and academic institutions in the United States, and believes these linkages to be valuable models for reform efforts elsewhere in the UN system.

The United States remained an active participant in 1997 on several key UNESCO subsidiary bodies that it had been instrumental in creating while still a member of UNESCO. The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) provides a forum for the United States to engage directly scientists and governments in both developing and industrialized countries in cooperative global oceanographic research and marine operations and exchange of scientific data. The U.S. scientific community places particular priority on the IOC's Global Ocean Observing System. The United States provides leadership to the IOC through U.S. membership on its Executive Council and through the presence on the IOC staff of U.S. oceans experts. The value of U.S. cash and in-kind contributions to the IOC, a functionally autonomous body of UNESCO, totaled slightly over $1,500,000 in 1997.

As an early promoter and signatory of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, the United States worked closely in 1997 with UNESCO's World Heritage Center in pursuit of U.S. international conservation goals. The United States is a member of the World Heritage Committee, which oversees the World Heritage Fund, and contributed approximately $500,000 to the Fund in 1997. In an extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee in October 1997 the United States was elected to the Committee's 7-member Bureau for a 1-year term. The United States sought election to be in a better position to strengthen implementation of the 1972 convention, an agenda the U.S. Delegation advanced at the annual Committee meeting in Naples in December.

In 1997 numerous offices and agencies of the U.S. Government participated in UNESCO meetings, conferences and seminars, many of which dealt with aspects of international conventions and agreements implemented by UNESCO of which the United States is a current or potential signatory. The United States associated itself, at the 29th General Confer-

ence, with UNESCO's Declaration on the Human Genome, a text that strikes an important balance between protecting human dignity and defending freedom of scientific inquiry.

In April 1997 UNESCO's Director General gave the keynote address at a U.S.-supported meeting on civic education at the White House conference center.

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

The UPU exists to facilitate international communications through the efficient operation of the postal services across borders. The United States has been a member of the UPU since its founding (as the General Postal Union) in 1874. There are now 189 members with no changes to membership during 1997. The UPU Congress meets every 5 years to review and revise its conventions, regulations and other agreements. The next Congress will be held in Beijing in 1999.

Council of Administration. The Council of Administration, responsible for questions of governmental policy and administration, met October 15–24 in Bern and adopted a 1998 budget of 35.7 million Swiss francs (25.5 million dollars), a slight reduction in nominal growth levels. The United States supported the reduced budget. The U.S. share of the budget remains approximately 6 percent. A strategic program budget is now in its third year, running in parallel with a traditional budget. It is slated to replace the traditional budget in the future. UPU members were generally satisfied with the 1997 budget presentation, but further refinement is under way to make it a more effective tool for managing and prioritizing the Union's activities.

Postal Operations Council. The Postal Operations Council and working parties met several times during 1997 at UPU Headquarters in Bern, Switzerland. Created by the 1994 Seoul Congress, the Council is responsible for operational and commercial questions. The United States continued its leadership of the cost study of the financially significant terminal dues system used by postal administrations to reimburse each other for mail delivery.

High-Level Meeting. A high-level strategy meeting for senior postal officials was held in Geneva October 13 and 14. Ministers and other officials from UPU member states discussed terminal dues policy, technical assistance to developing countries, access to bulk mail terminal dues by private operators, developments in telecommunications and other topics of importance to the international postal system.

World Bank Group

The World Bank Group is composed of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD, established in 1945), Interna-

tional Development Association (IDA, established in 1960), International Finance Corporation (IFC, established in 1956) and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA, established in 1988). From their creation through June 30, 1997, the IBRD and IDA have provided more than $396 billion in loans, either at near-commercial terms (IBRD) or at concessional terms (IDA), for development projects and economic policies. During the Bank Group's fiscal year 1997, which ended June 30, 180 nations were members of the IBRD, 159 belong to the IDA, 172 were members of the IFC and 141 were members of MIGA. The United States is the largest contributor to the World Bank Group, with 17.52 percent of the shares in the IBRD, 15.29 percent of IDA's votes (24.1 percent of total subscriptions and contributions), 23.93 percent of the IFC's capital and 20.8 percent of MIGA's shares on June 30.

The World Bank works with specialized UN agencies in a wide variety of activities and issues, such as population, health and education. For example, in 1997, the World Bank provided vital follow-up to commitments stemming from the 1995 Beijing Conference on Women and Development and the 1996 Habitat II Conference. The World Bank cosponsors—with, among others, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, UN Development Program (UNDP) and the UN Environment Program (UNEP)—the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), which supports a network of 16 international agricultural research centers. Along with UNDP, the Bank cosponsors the World Health Organization's Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), which combats six major tropical diseases. Responsibility for implementing the Global Environment Facility (GEF), a $500 million portfolio of projects dealing with biodiversity, climate change, ozone-depleting substances and international waters, is shared among the World Bank, the UNDP and UNEP.

World Health Organization (WHO)

The World Health Organization, based in Geneva, was established in 1948 with the objective of "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health."

U.S. Representatives participated in meetings of the World Health Assembly, WHO Executive Board, regional committees for the Americas, Western Pacific, and Europe, and the 16-member Governing Council of the International Agency for Research on Cancer. U.S. officials also participated in meetings of the management committees of WHO's major voluntarily funded programs, and of the UN Joint Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), which is cosponsored by WHO and five other agencies. Within the WHO staff, there were more American citizens than any other nationality in professional posts. Senior posts occupied by Americans

included those of Assistant Director General for Communicable Diseases, Legal Counsel, Director of Internal Audit and Oversight, Senior Advisor on Health Policy in Development, Director of the Division of Emerging and other Communicable Diseases, and Director of the Division of Personnel.

A major issue at WHO during 1997 was the U.S. effort to obtain a reduction of the budget as well as to reduce the level of the U.S. assessment rate. Although the United States did not get agreement on its goal of a 5 percent reduction in the 1998–1999 budget, below the level of the 1996–1997 budget, the pressure on WHO staff and on the World Health Assembly to economize ultimately led to a decision for a no-growth budget, at exactly the same level as the budget for the previous biennium. For 1998–1999, the budget level was set at $842,654,000—second largest regular budget in the UN system, after that of the United Nations itself—and the U.S. assessment was set at $108,371,575 in each year of the biennium.

Although it was technically possible for the World Health Assembly to change the assessment scale, it was agreed by all parties that no action should be taken on this issue prior to action on assessments by the UN General Assembly. Nevertheless, the U.S. Delegation to the World Health Assembly was able to get agreement that the assessment scale for 1998–1999 could be reconsidered in May 1998 if the UN General Assembly had taken action to change assessments.

On all of the financial issues, the U.S. Delegation encountered resistance to its efforts because of the uncertainty of when and how much the United States would pay—both in current-year assessments and in arrears from prior years. WHO records showed that, at the end of 1997, U.S. arrears amounted to $39.8 million. Although no agreement was reached between the Administration and the Congress regarding the payment of arrears, the United States in December paid its 1997 assessment to WHO virtually in full.

On related issues, the United States and others continued efforts to bring about budget and administrative reform in WHO. The Executive Board had established a working group to study potential changes in the WHO Constitution, and this group was also assigned the task of studying WHO's regional arrangements, the system by which more than two-thirds of WHO's regular budget resources are distributed through the six regional offices. Issues that were considered included the possible reallocation of resources among the six regional groups and the terms of service of the regional directors. WHO staff also continued to revise the basic "health for all" policy of the organization, for possible adoption of a new declaration or charter in May 1998 on the occasion of WHO's 50th anniversary assembly.

WHO's Director General, Hiroshi Nakajima of Japan, announced at the May 1997 Assembly that he would not seek election to a third term. He had first been elected in 1988 after serving for 10 years as director of WHO's Western Pacific regional office. In mid-1997, following revised procedures established by the Executive Board, WHO announced to all member states that the Board in January 1998 would nominate one person to fill the post of Director General, and invited nominations from all member states. By the time of the deadline, seven individuals had been nominated for WHO's senior post. At the end of the year, the United States announced to other WHO member states that its preferred candidate for election to this post was Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, former Prime Minister of Norway. (Dr. Brundtland in fact was nominated for this post by the Board in January 1998, for formal election by the May 1998 World Health Assembly.)

The Assembly, *inter alia*, gave enthusiastic support to WHO's 1997 "World Health Report," which dealt with cancer and other chronic diseases. It declared that the cloning of human beings is "ethically unacceptable and contrary to human integrity and morality." A series of resolutions on technical health subjects included recommendations that member states cease or severely cut back the use of DDT, give intensified attention to the public health impact of violence, address the issue of the sale of pharmaceuticals on the Internet and take efforts to control several communicable diseases. Strong support was voiced for WHO's polio eradication efforts, its work to address emerging and reemerging infectious diseases, and its highly regarded normative functions, including maintaining systems for the international classification of diseases and for standards of biological products. Following up a resolution from the 1996 Assembly, WHO staff during the year began discussions on the content of a new international framework convention on the control of tobacco. U.S. Government representatives participated in these discussions.

The Assembly in May ratified WHO's signature on the agreement of a new International Vaccine Institute, based in the Republic of Korea. It rejected, by a vote of 128 to 19, with 5 (U.S.) abstentions, an effort by Taiwan to be approved for official observer status at WHO, and it adopted, by a vote of 93 to 4 (U.S.), with 4 abstentions, a resolution put forward by Palestine and Arab states that was highly critical of Israel. The United States, in the interests of economy, spoke strongly to oppose the construction of a new $10 million regional office building for WHO in Cairo, Egypt. The Government of Egypt said it was donating valuable land for the new building. No other country opposed the project, and it was approved.

Pan American Health Organization

The Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), composed of representatives of all 38 PAHO member states, met in Washington in September. U.S. officials were active in that meeting as well as in meetings of the PAHO Executive Committee and its Subcommittee on Planning and Programming. The United States was elected to fill the post of vice president of the Executive Committee.

The United States, which pays 59.44 percent of the PAHO regular budget, asked PAHO staff and member states to adopt a budget for 1998–1999 that was 5 percent below the budget of 1996–1997. PAHO, however, sought an increase in the budget. In the end, following the World Health Assembly's adoption of a zero nominal growth budget for WHO, the Directing Council did the same for PAHO. The 1998–1999 budget was set at $168,578,000, exactly the same as the 1996–1997 budget. U.S. assessments in each year of the biennium were set at $49,927,762. PAHO records showed that, at the end of 1997, U.S. arrears in payments amounted to $14.5 million.

The Directing Council adopted resolutions on, *inter alia*, AIDS, oral health, nutrition, hantavirus, adolescent health and health emergency preparedness for disasters caused by "El Nino." There was renewed praise for PAHO's work in eradicating polio in the Western Hemisphere, the first region in the world to achieve this goal. Members also expressed appreciation for PAHO's efforts to promote health reform in newly elected democratic governments in the region, including work to promote national goal-setting in health. U.S. and Mexican Delegations also welcomed PAHO's cooperation with them in improving health conditions in the U.S.-Mexico border area.

International Agency for Research on Cancer

The 16-member Governing Council of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), a subsidiary of WHO, met at IARC Headquarters in Lyon, France. The U.S. Delegation again praised the work of IARC Director Paul Kleihues (Germany) for reforms achieved in restructuring the agency and improving IARC's reputation within strict budgetary limitations. It also praised IARC's high-quality scientific programs.

The U.S. Delegation to the Governing Council urged adoption of a budget for 1998–1999 that was lower than the one for 1996–1997, and was successful in getting a reduction (0.34 percent). The new IARC budget was set at $36,880,665 for the biennium. The U.S. assessment (9.17 percent of the total) was set at $1,665,526 in 1998 and $1,718,275 in 1999. During the year, the United States paid $1,428,007 of its 1997 assessment of $1,751,738. IARC records showed that, at the end of 1997, U.S. arrearages amounted to $352,126.

UNAIDS

The Joint UN Program on HIV/AIDS, known as UNAIDS, began formal operations on January 1, 1996. The program is cosponsored by WHO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO and the World Bank. The 22-member Program Coordinating Board, meeting in April, approved a budget of $120 million for 1998–1999. The U.S. Agency for International Development was the largest national contributor to the program in 1997. On World AIDS Day, December 1, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said that support for UNAIDS, as well as for WHO and the World Bank, was critical in the global fight against this disease. She said she was determined to work with the Congress to sustain that support.

At year's end, program director Peter Piot (Belgium) said that new estimates showed that HIV infection was far more common than previously thought. UNAIDS and WHO had estimated that more than 30 million people were living with HIV infection at the end of 1997, or one in every 100 adults in the sexually active ages of 15 to 49 worldwide. He said that an estimated 2.3 million people died of AIDS during 1997, of which 46 percent were women and 460,000 were children. Piot said that UNAIDS by year's end had set up theme groups in 120 countries to serve as the coordination mechanism for HIV/AIDS activities.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

WIPO was established by a convention that entered into force in 1970. One of the 16 specialized agencies of the United Nations, WIPO is responsible for promoting the protection of intellectual property (copyrights, patents and trademarks) through cooperation among states; administration of Unions founded on the basis of multilateral intellectual property (IP) treaties; and providing IP-related technical assistance to foster the development and growth of rational IP systems among WIPO members.

Administrative Organization

There are 158 signatories to the WIPO Convention. WIPO administers 17 intergovernmental "unions" or treaties, each founded on a multilateral treaty. The two principal treaties are the Paris and Berne Conventions (140 and 119 signatories, respectively), consolidated in 1893 under the name of the United International Bureau for the Protection of Intellectual Property (BIRPI). Although BIRPI still has a legal existence for states that are members of one of the Unions but not of WIPO, in practice it has been supplanted by the International Bureau. The International Bureau operates under the direction of WIPO member states through a General Assembly that meets in ordinary session every second year. The principal administrative organs of the Paris and Berne Unions are the assemblies of each

union, from which all the member states elect executive committees. The combination of these two committees constitutes WIPO's Coordination Committee. It meets annually and is entrusted with the normal tasks of such a governing body, including the review and implementation of WIPO's biennial program and budget.

Member states contribute to six of the WIPO unions, known as the "Program Unions." WIPO's 1996–1997 biennial gross assessed budget for the Program Unions is approximately $17.5 million. The U.S. share is approximately 6.5 percent of the total assessment. Because of the installation of a new Director General in late 1997, consideration of the 1998–1999 biennial budget, which normally would have occurred at the September 1997 Governing Bodies meeting, was delayed until March 1998 to give the new Director General time to develop his own program and budget for presentation to the members.

WIPO Governing Bodies

The meeting of the Governing Bodies of WIPO and the Unions Administered by WIPO was held September 22–October 1. Convened during the Governing Bodies meeting, the WIPO General Assembly appointed a new Director General, Kamil Idris of Sudan, to succeed Arpad Bogsch, who had served as WIPO Director General for more than 2 decades.

WIPO-WTO Cooperation

On January 1, 1996, an agreement between WIPO and the World Trade Organization (WTO) entered into force. It provides for cooperation concerning implementation of the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement, namely, notification of laws and regulations, communication of emblems of states and international intergovernmental organizations under Article 6 of the Paris Convention, as well as legal-technical assistance and technical cooperation in favor of developing countries relating to the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Membership in WMO now consists of 179 states and 6 member territories. The 49th session of the Executive Council met in June 1997. The Council agreed to continue to monitor the implementation of its new policy on the exchange of meteorological data and analysis products developed by member states. (Resolution 40, 12th Congress.) The policy provides protection of key U.S. interests in the open and free exchange of meteorological and hydrological data for forecasting, research and other noncommercial uses, and provides guidelines to protect the intellectual property rights of those who provide analyses based on such data.

Secretary General G.O.P. Obasi (Nigeria) announced that he intended to present himself as a candidate for reelection to a fifth term as WMO Secretary General when his current term expires in December 1999. Ambassador Manuel Dengo (Costa Rica) also announced in 1997 his candidacy for this Secretary General position.

The United States continued its financial support for the WMO Voluntary Cooperation Program (VCP), which provides training and equipment to help developing countries participate in WMO programs, particularly the World Weather Watch (WWW).

World Trade Organization (WTO)

WTO is an autonomous international organization of countries and independent customs territories that adhere to a system of multilateral trade agreements covering trade in goods and services. As the legal and institutional foundation of the multilateral trading system, the WTO serves as a forum for negotiations to liberalize the trading system and progressively open markets, oversees and enforces rules of conduct of trade relations, and provides a mechanism for settling disputes.

The WTO was formally established on January 1, 1995, as the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade of 1947 (GATT). It encompasses the preexisting GATT structure, covering trade in goods, and extends it to trade in services and protection of intellectual property. The WTO provides specific disciplines in a number of areas, such as agriculture, textiles and trade-related investment measures. Generally, members must apply certain basic principles, such as nondiscrimination and transparency, to trade with other members.

In 1997 the WTO held the High-Level Meeting on Technical Assistance for the Least Developed Countries. At its 1996 meeting in Singapore, WTO Ministers adopted the WTO Plan of Action for the Least-Developed Countries (LLDCs), which envisioned closer cooperation between the WTO and other multilateral agencies assisting least-developed countries to improve their overall capacity to respond to the challenges and opportunities offered by the international trading system. The high-level meeting was organized by the WTO Secretariat, with the active participation of the secretariats of UNCTAD, the International Trade Center (ITC), the UN Development Program (UNDP) and the staffs of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. At that conference, these six "core" intergovernmental organizations sought to foster an integrated approach to trade-related technical assistance activities for the LLDCs. The high-level meeting addressed trade-related technical assistance, training, and capacity building, and enhanced market access for LLDCs. As a part of the process, LLDCs provided comprehensive assessments of their needs for trade-related technical assistance. A significant

outcome of the meeting was an integrated plan for trade-related technical assistance for each participating LLDC. The six core agencies and other relevant technical assistance providers continue to work together to respond to the technical assistance needs of the LLDCs.

Appendix 1

Address by President William J. Clinton

Statement by President Clinton before the 52nd regular session of the UN General Assembly on September 22, 1997.

Five years ago, when I first addressed this Assembly, the cold war had only just ended and the transition to a new era was beginning. Now, together, we are making that historic transition. Behind us, we leave a century full of humanity's capacity for the worst and its genius for the best. Before us, at the dawn of a new millennium, we can envision a new era that escapes the 20th century's darkest moments, fulfils its most brilliant possibilities and crosses frontiers yet unimagined.

We are off to a promising start. For the first time in history, more than half the people represented in this Assembly freely choose their own Governments. Free markets are growing, spreading individual opportunity and national well-being. Early in the 21st century, more than 20 of this Assembly's members—home to half the earth's population—will lift themselves from the ranks of low-income nations.

Powerful forces are bringing us closer together, profoundly changing the way we work, live and relate to each other. Every day, millions of our citizens on every continent use laptops and satellites to send information, products and money across the planet in seconds. Bit by bit, the information age is chipping away at barriers—economic, political and social—that once kept people locked in and ideas locked out. Science is unravelling mysteries in the tiniest of human genes and in the vast cosmos. Never in the course of human history have we had a greater opportunity to make our people healthier and wiser, to protect our planet from decay and abuse and to reap the benefits of free markets without abandoning the social contract and its concern for the common good.

Yet, today's possibilities are not tomorrow's guarantees. We have work to do.

The forces of global integration are a great tide, inexorably wearing away the established order of things. But we must decide what will be left in its wake. People fear change when they feel its burdens but not its benefits. They are susceptible to misguided protectionism and to the poisoned appeals of extreme nationalism, and ethnic, racial and religious hatreds. New global environmental challenges require us to find ways to work together without damaging legitimate aspirations for progress. We are all vulnerable to the reckless acts of rogue states and to an unholy axis of terrorists, drug traffickers and international criminals.

These 21st-century predators feed on the free flow of information, ideas and people we cherish. They abuse the vast power of technology to build

black markets for weapons, to compromise law enforcement with huge bribes of illicit cash and to launder money with the keystroke of a computer. These forces are our enemies. We must face them together because no one can defeat them alone.

To seize the opportunities and move against the threats of this new global era, we need a new strategy of security. Over the past 5 years, nations have began to put that strategy in place through a new network of institutions and arrangements, with distinct missions, but a common purpose: to secure and strengthen the gains of democracy and free markets while turning back their enemies.

We see this strategy taking shape on every continent: in expanded military alliances, such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), its Partnership for Peace and its partnerships with a democratic Russia and a democratic Ukraine; in free trade arrangements, such as the World Trade Organization and the global Information Technology Agreement, and in the movement towards free-trade areas by nations in the Americas, the Asia-Pacific region and elsewhere around the world; in strong arms-control regimes, such as the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; in multinational coalitions with zero tolerance for terrorism, corruption, crime and drug trafficking; and in binding international commitments to protect the environment and safeguard human rights.

Through this web of institutions and arrangements, nations are setting the international ground rules for the 21st century, laying a foundation for security and prosperity for those who live within them, while isolating those who challenge them from the outside. This system will develop and endure only if those who follow the rules of peace and freedom fully reap their rewards. Only then will our people believe that they have a stake in supporting and shaping the emerging international system.

The United Nations must play a leading role in this effort, filling in the fault lines of the new global era. The core missions it has pursued during its first half century will be just as relevant during the next half century: the pursuit of peace and security, promoting human rights and moving people from poverty to dignity and prosperity through sustainable development.

Conceived in the cauldron of war, the United Nations' first task must remain the pursuit of peace and security. For 50 years the United Nations has helped prevent world war and nuclear holocaust. Unfortunately, conflicts between nations, and within nations, have endured. From 1945 until today, they have cost 20 million lives. Just since the end of the cold war, each year there have been more than 30 armed conflicts in which more than 1,000 people have lost their lives—including, of course, a quarter of a million killed in the former Yugoslavia and more than half a million in Rwanda.

Millions of personal tragedies the world over are a warning that we dare not be complacent or indifferent; trouble in a far corner can become a plague on everyone's house. People the world over cheer the hopeful developments in Northern Ireland, grieve over the loss of innocent lives and the stalling of the peace process in the Middle East and long for a resolution of the differences on the Korean peninsula, between Greece and Turkey or between the great nations of India and Pakistan as they celebrate the 50th anniversary of their birth.

The United Nations continues to keep many nations away from bloodshed: in El Salvador and Mozambique; in Haiti and Namibia; in Cyprus; and in Bosnia, where so much remains to

be done but can still be done because the bloodshed has ended.

The UN record of service has left a legacy of sacrifice. Just last week we lost some of our finest sons and daughters in the crash of a UN helicopter in Bosnia. Five were American, five German, one Polish and one British—all citizens of the world we are trying to make, each a selfless servant of peace. The world is poorer for their passing.

At this very moment, the United Nations is keeping the peace in 16 countries, often in partnership with regional organizations such as NATO, the Organization of American States, the Association of South-East Asian Nations and the Economic Community of West African States, avoiding wider conflicts and even greater suffering. Our shared commitment to more realistic peacekeeping training for the UN troops, a stronger role for civilian police and better integration between military and civilian agencies—all these will help the United Nations fulfil these missions in the years ahead.

At the same time, we must improve the UN's capabilities after a conflict ends to help peace become self-sustaining. The United Nations cannot build nations, but it can help nations build themselves by fostering legitimate institutions of government, monitoring elections and laying a strong foundation for economic reconstruction.

This week the Security Council will hold an unprecedented ministerial meeting on African security, which our Secretary of State is proud to chair, and which President Mugabe, Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, will address. It will highlight the role the United Nations can and should play in preventing conflict on a continent where amazing progress towards democracy and development is occurring alongside still too much discord, disease and distress.

In the 21st century our security will be challenged increasingly by interconnected groups that traffic in terror, organized crime and drug smuggling. Already, these international crime and drug syndicates drain up to $750 billion a year from legitimate economies. That sum exceeds the combined gross national product of more than half the nations in this hall. These groups threaten to undermine confidence in the fragile new democracies and market economies that so many of you are working so hard to see endure.

Two years ago I called upon all the members of this Assembly to join in the fight against these forces. I applaud the recent UN resolution calling on its members to join the major international antiterrorism conventions, making clear the emerging international consensus that terrorism is always a crime and never a justifiable political act. As more countries sign on, terrorists will have fewer places to run or hide. I also applaud the steps that members are taking to implement the Declaration on Crime and Public Security that the United States proposed two years ago, calling for increased cooperation to strengthen every citizen's right to basic safety, through cooperation on extradition and asset forfeiture, shutting down grey markets for guns and false documents, attacking corruption and bringing higher standards to law enforcement in new democracies.

The spread of these global criminal syndicates also has made all the more urgent our common quest to eliminate weapons of mass destruction. We cannot allow them to fall into or remain in the wrong hands. Here, too, the United Nations must lead, and it has led—from the UN Special Commission in Iraq to the International Atomic Energy Agency, now the most expansive global inspection system ever devised to police arms-control agreements.

When we met here last year, I was honored to be the first of 146 leaders to sign the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), our commitment to end all nuclear tests for all time, the longest-sought, hardest-fought prize in the history of arms control. It will help prevent the nuclear powers from developing more advanced and more dangerous weapons. It will limit the possibilities for other states to acquire such devices. I am pleased to announce that today I am sending this crucial Treaty to the U.S. Senate for ratification. Our common goal should be for the CTBT to enter into force as soon as possible. I ask for you to support that goal.

The United Nations' second core mission must be to defend and extend universal human rights and to help democracy's remarkable gains endure. Fifty years ago the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights stated the international community's conviction that people everywhere have the right to be treated with dignity, to give voice to their opinions and to choose their leaders; that these rights are universal—not American rights, not Western rights, not rights for the developed world only, but rights inherent in the humanity of people everywhere.

Over the past decades these rights have become a reality for more people than ever, from Asia to Africa, from Europe to the Americas. In a world that links rich and poor, North and South, city and countryside in an electronic network of shared images in real time, the more these universal rights take hold, the more people who do not enjoy them will demand them. Armed with photocopiers and fax machines, e-mail and the Internet; supported by an increasingly important community of nongovernmental organizations, they will make their demands known, spreading the spirit of freedom—which, as the history of the last 10 years has shown us, ultimately will prevail.

The United Nations must be prepared to respond—not only by setting standards but by implementing them. To deter abuses, we should strengthen the UN field operations and early-warning systems. To strengthen democratic institutions—the best guarantors of human rights—we must pursue programs to help new legal, parliamentary and electoral institutions get off the ground. To punish those responsible for crimes against humanity, and to promote justice so that peace endures, we must maintain our strong support for the UN war-crime tribunals and truth commissions. And before the century ends, we should establish a permanent international court to prosecute the most serious violations of humanitarian law.

The United States welcomes the Secretary General's efforts to strengthen the role of human rights within the UN system and his splendid choice of Mary Robinson as the new High Commissioner for Human Rights. We will work hard to make sure that she has the support she needs to carry out her mandate.

Finally, the United Nations has a special responsibility to make sure that as the global economy creates greater wealth, it does not produce growing disparities between the haves and have-nots or threaten the global environment, our common home. Progress is not yet everyone's partner. More than half the world's people are two days' walk from a telephone, literally disconnected from the global economy. Tens of millions lack the education, the training and the skills they need to make the most of their God-given abilities.

The men and women of the United Nations have expertise across the entire range of humanitarian and development activities. Every day they are making a difference. We see it in

nourished bodies of once-starving children, in the full lives of those immunized against disease, in the bright eyes of children exposed to education through the rich storehouse of human knowledge, in refugees cared for and returned to their homes and in the health of rivers and lakes restored.

The United Nations must focus even more on shifting resources from handouts to "hand ups," on giving people the tools they need to make the most of their own destinies. Spreading ideas and education and technology—the true wealth of nations—is the best way to give the people the chance to succeed.

The United Nations must continue to lead in ensuring that today's progress does not come at tomorrow's expense. When the nations of the world gather again next December in Kyoto for the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, all of us—developed and developing nations—must seize the opportunity to turn back the clock on greenhouse-gas emissions so that we can leave a healthy planet to our children.

In these efforts, the United Nations no longer can, and no longer need, go it alone. Innovative partnerships with the private sector, nongovernmental organizations and the international financial institutions can leverage its effectiveness many times over. Last week a truly visionary American, Ted Turner, made a remarkable donation to strengthen the United Nations development and humanitarian programs. His gesture highlights the potential for partnership between the United Nations and the private sector in contributions of time, resources and expertise. I hope more will follow his lead.

In this area and others, the Secretary General is aggressively pursuing the most far-reaching reform of the United Nations in its history—not to make the United Nations smaller as an end in itself, but to a make it better. The United States strongly supports his leadership. We should pass the Secretary General's reform agenda at this session.

On every previous occasion I have addressed this Assembly, the issue of our country's dues has brought the commitment of the United States to the United Nations into question. The United States was a founder of the United Nations. We are proud to be its host. We believe in its ideals. We continue to be, as we have been, its largest contributor. We are committed to seeing the United Nations succeed in the 21st century.

This year, for the first time since I have been President, we have an opportunity to put the question of debts and dues behind us once and for all and to put the United Nations on a sounder financial footing for the future. I have made it a priority to work with our Congress on comprehensive legislation that would allow us to pay off the bulk of our arrears and assure full financing of America's assessment in the years ahead. Our Congress's actions to solve this problem reflect a strong bipartisan commitment to the United Nations and to America's role within it. At the same time, we look to member states to adopt a more equitable scale of assessments. Let me say that we also strongly support expanding the Security Council to give more countries a voice in the most important work of the United Nations. In more equitably sharing responsibility for its successes, we can make the United Nations stronger and more democratic than it is today. I ask the General Assembly to act on these proposals this year so that we can move forward together.

At the dawn of a new century so full of hope but not free of peril, more than ever we need a United Nations

where people of reason can work through shared problems and take action to combat them, where nations of goodwill can join in the struggle for freedom and prosperity and where we can shape a future of peace, progress and the preservation of our planet. We have the knowledge; we have the intelligence; we have the energy; we have the resources for the work before us. We are building the necessary networks of cooperation. The great question remaining is whether we have the vision and the heart necessary to imagine a future that is different from the past—necessary to free ourselves from destructive patterns of relations with each other and within our own nations and to live a future that is different.

A new century in a new millennium is upon us. We are literally present at the future, and it is the great gift we are obligated to leave to our children.

Appendix 2

Principal Organs of the United Nations

General Assembly

The General Assembly is composed of all 185 members of the United Nations. As of December 31, 1997, they are:

Member	Date of Admission
Afghanistan	Nov. 19, 1946
Albania	Dec. 14, 1955
Algeria	Oct. 8, 1962
Andorra	July 28, 1993
Angola	Dec. 1, 1976
Antigua and Barbuda	Nov. 11, 1981
Argentina	Oct. 24, 1945
Armenia	Mar. 2, 1992
Australia	Nov. 1, 1945
Austria	Dec. 14, 1955
Azerbaijan	Mar. 2, 1992
Bahamas	Sept. 18, 1973
Bahrain	Sept. 21, 1971
Bangladesh	Sept. 17, 1974
Barbados	Dec. 9, 1966
Belarus	Oct. 24, 1945
Belgium	Dec. 27, 1945
Belize	Sept. 25, 1981
Benin	Sept. 20, 1960
Bhutan	Sept. 21, 1971
Bolivia	Nov. 14, 1945
Bosnia and Herzegovina	May 22, 1992
Botswana	Oct. 17, 1966
Brazil	Oct. 24, 1945
Brunei Darussalam	Sept. 21, 1984
Bulgaria	Dec. 14, 1955
Burkina Faso	Sept. 20, 1960
Burundi	Sept. 18, 1962
Cambodia	Dec. 14, 1955
Cameroon	Sept. 20, 1960
Canada	Nov. 9, 1945
Cape Verde	Sept. 16, 1975
Central African Republic	Sept. 20, 1960
Chad	Sept. 20, 1960
Chile	Oct. 24, 1945
China	Oct. 24, 1945
Colombia	Nov. 5, 1945
Comoros	Nov. 12, 1975
Congo	Sept. 20, 1960
Congo, Democratic Republic of	Sept. 20, 1960
Costa Rica	Nov. 2, 1945
Cote d'Ivoire	Sept. 20, 1960
Croatia	May 22, 1992
Cuba	Oct. 24, 1945
Cyprus	Sept. 20, 1960
Czech Republic	Jan. 19, 1993
Denmark	Oct. 24, 1945
Djibouti	Sept. 20, 1977
Dominica	Dec. 18, 1978
Dominican Republic	Oct. 24, 1945
Ecuador	Dec. 21, 1945
Egypt	Oct. 24, 1945
El Salvador	Oct. 24, 1945
Equatorial Guinea	Nov. 12, 1968
Eritrea	May 28, 1993
Estonia	Sept. 17, 1991
Ethiopia	Nov. 13, 1945
Fiji	Oct. 13, 1970

Member	Date of Admission
Finland	Dec. 14, 1955
France	Oct. 24, 1945
Gabon	Sept. 20, 1960
Gambia	Sept. 21, 1965
Georgia	July 31, 1992
Germany	Sept. 18, 1973
Ghana	Mar. 8, 1957
Greece	Oct. 25, 1945
Grenada	Sept. 17, 1974
Guatemala	Nov. 21, 1945
Guinea	Dec. 12, 1958
Guinea-Bissau	Sept. 17, 1974
Guyana	Sept. 20, 1966
Haiti	Oct. 24, 1945
Honduras	Dec. 17, 1945
Hungary	Dec. 14, 1955
Iceland	Nov. 19, 1946
India	Oct. 30, 1945
Indonesia	Sept. 28, 1950
Iran	Oct. 24, 1945
Iraq	Dec. 21, 1945
Ireland	Dec. 14, 1955
Israel	May 11, 1949
Italy	Dec. 14, 1955
Jamaica	Sept. 18, 1962
Japan	Dec. 18, 1956
Jordan	Dec. 14, 1955
Kazakhstan	Mar. 2, 1992
Kenya	Dec. 16, 1963
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	Sept. 17, 1991
Korea, Republic of	Sept. 17, 1991
Kuwait	May 14, 1963
Kyrgyzstan	Mar. 2, 1992
Laos	Dec. 14, 1955
Latvia	Sept. 17, 1991
Lebanon	Oct. 24, 1945
Lesotho	Oct. 17, 1966
Liberia	Nov. 2, 1945
Libya	Dec. 14, 1955
Liechtenstein	Sept. 18, 1990
Lithuania	Sept. 17, 1991
Luxembourg	Oct. 24, 1945
Madagascar	Sept. 20, 1960
Malawi	Dec. 1, 1964
Malaysia	Sept. 17, 1957
Maldives	Sept. 21, 1965
Mali	Sept. 28, 1960
Malta	Dec. 1, 1964
Marshall Islands	Sept. 17, 1991
Mauritania	Oct. 27, 1961
Mauritius	Apr. 24, 1968
Mexico	Nov. 7, 1945
Micronesia	Sept. 17, 1991
Moldova	Mar. 2, 1992
Monaco	May 28, 1993
Mongolia	Oct. 27, 1961
Morocco	Nov. 12, 1956
Mozambique	Sept. 16, 1975
Myanmar	Apr. 19, 1948
Namibia	Apr. 23, 1990
Nepal	Dec. 14, 1955
Netherlands	Dec. 10, 1945
New Zealand	Oct. 24, 1945
Nicaragua	Oct. 24, 1945
Niger	Sept. 20, 1960
Nigeria	Oct. 7, 1960
Norway	Nov. 27, 1945
Oman	Oct. 7, 1971
Pakistan	Sept. 30, 1947
Palau	Dec. 15, 1994
Panama	Nov. 13, 1945
Papua New Guinea	Oct. 10, 1975
Paraguay	Oct. 24, 1945
Peru	Oct. 31, 1945
Philippines	Oct. 24, 1945
Poland	Oct. 24, 1945
Portugal	Dec. 14, 1955
Qatar	Sept. 21, 1971
Romania	Dec. 14, 1955
Russian Federation	Oct. 24, 1945
Rwanda	Sept. 18, 1962
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Sept. 23, 1983
Saint Lucia	Sept. 18, 1979
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Sept. 16, 1980
Samoa	Dec. 15, 1976
San Marino	Mar. 2, 1992
Sao Tome and Principe	Sept. 16, 1975
Saudi Arabia	Oct. 24, 1945
Senegal	Sept. 28, 1960
Seychelles	Sept. 21, 1976
Sierra Leone	Sept. 27, 1961
Singapore	Sept. 21, 1965

Member	Date of Admission
Slovak Republic	Jan. 19, 1993
Slovenia	May 22, 1992
Solomon Islands	Sept. 19, 1978
Somalia	Sept. 20, 1960
South Africa	Nov. 7, 1945
Spain	Dec. 14, 1955
Sri Lanka	Dec. 14, 1955
Sudan	Nov. 12, 1956
Suriname	Dec. 4, 1975
Swaziland	Sept. 24, 1968
Sweden	Nov. 19, 1946
Syria	Oct. 24, 1945
Tajikistan	Mar. 2, 1992
Tanzania	Dec. 14, 1961
Thailand	Dec. 16, 1946
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Apr. 8, 1993
Togo	Sept. 20, 1960
Trinidad and Tobago	Sept. 18, 1962
Tunisia	Nov. 12, 1956
Turkey	Oct. 24, 1945
Turkmenistan	Mar. 2, 1992
Uganda	Oct. 25, 1962
Ukraine	Oct. 24, 1945
United Arab Emirates	Dec. 9, 1971
United Kingdom	Oct. 24, 1945
United States	Oct. 24, 1945
Uruguay	Dec. 18, 1945
Uzbekistan	Mar. 2, 1992
Vanuatu	Sept. 15, 1981
Venezuela	Nov. 15, 1945
Vietnam	Sept. 20, 1977
Yemen	Sept. 30, 1947
Yugoslavia	Oct. 24, 1945
Zambia	Dec. 1, 1964
Zimbabwe	Aug. 25, 1980

The 51st regular session of the General Assembly, which had been suspended December 19, 1996, held resumed sessions between January 31 and September 15. During the resumed sessions the Assembly adopted 38 resolutions and 37 decisions. The Assembly was formally closed on September 15.

Two special sessions were convened in 1997. The 10th emergency special session met April 24–25, July 15 and November 13 to discuss Israeli actions in the occupied territories. The 19th special session was convened June 23–27 regarding implementation of Agenda 21.

The 52nd regular session of the General Assembly convened September 16, 1997, and was suspended December 22, 1997.

The Assembly elected Hennadiy Udovenko (Ukraine) as President and the Chairmen of the Delegations of China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guinea, Ireland, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Mongolia, Panama, Qatar, Russian Federation. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Togo, United Kingdom, United States, and Vietnam as the 21 Vice Presidents.

The Chairmen of the six Main Committees, on which each member may be represented, were:

First Committee (Disarmament and International Security)—Mothusi D.C. Nkgowe (Botswana)

Second Committee (Economic and Financial)—Oscar de Rojas (Venezuela)

Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural)—Alessandro Busacca (Italy)

Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization)—Machivenyika Tobias Mapuranga (Zimbabwe)

Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary)—Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh)

Sixth Committee (Legal)—Peter Tomka (Slovakia)

The General Committee (steering committee) is composed of the President, the 21 Vice Presidents and the Chairmen of the 6 Main Committees of the General Assembly.

Security Council

The Security Council is composed of 5 members designated in the Charter as permanent and 10 members elected by the General Assembly for 2-year terms ending December 31 of the year given in the heading:

Permanent Members: China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States

1997: Chile, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau, Poland, Republic of Korea

1998: Costa Rica, Japan, Kenya, Portugal, Sweden

On October 14 the Assembly elected Bahrain, Brazil, Gabon, the Gambia and Slovenia as members of the Security Council for 2-year terms of office beginning January 1, 1998.

Trusteeship Council

The Trusteeship Council is composed of the United States and the other four Permanent Members of the Security Council (China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom).

In 1994 the Trusteeship Council adopted an amendment to its rules of procedure stating that it will meet in the future only on request. The Council did not meet in 1997.

Economic and Social Council

ECOSOC is composed of 54 members elected by the General Assembly for 3-year terms ending December 31 of the year given in the heading:

1997: Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Colombia, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, India, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand, Uganda, United States

1998: Argentina, Bangladesh, Canada, Central African Republic, China, Czech Republic, Finland, Gabon, Guyana, Jordan, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Romania, Russian Federation, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom

1999: Cape Verde, Chile, Cuba, Djibouti, El Salvador, France, Gambia, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Latvia, Mexico, Mozambique, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Zambia

The General Assembly elected Algeria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Colombia, Comoros, India, Italy, Lesotho, Mauritius, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, United States and Vietnam for a 3–year term beginning on January 1, 1998. All were elected on October 30, except Saint Lucia on November 5.

International Court of Justice

The International Court of Justice consists of 15 members elected by the General Assembly and Security Council for 9-year terms ending February 5 of the year shown in parentheses. The judges, listed in order of precedence, are:

Stephen M. Schwebel, United States (2006), President

Christopher G. Weeramantry, Sri Lanka (2000) Vice President

Shigeru Oda, Japan (2003)

Mohammed Bedjaoui, Algeria (2006)

Gilbert Guillaume, France (2000)

Raymond Ranjeva, Madagascar (2000)

Geza Herczegh, Hungary (2003)

Shi Jiuyong, China (2003)

Carl-August Fleischhauer, Germany (2003)

Abdul Koroma, Sierra Leone (2003)

Vladlen S. Vereshchetin, Russian Federation (2006)

Rosalyn Higgins, United Kingdom (2000)

Gonzalo Parra-Aranguren, Venezuela (2000)

Pieter H. Kooijmans, Netherlands (2006)

Francisco Rezek, Brazil (2006)

Appendix 3

United States Representatives

Permanent Representative and Chief of Mission to the United Nations: Madeleine K. Albright (to January 1997); Bill Richardson (from February 1997)

Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations: Edward W. Gnehm, Jr. (to August 1997); A. Peter Burleigh (from August 1997)

Deputy Permanent Representatives to the Security Council: Edward W. Gnehm, Jr. (to August 1997); Karl F. Inderfurth (to August 1997); A. Peter Burleigh (from August 1997); Nancy E. Soderberg (from December 1997)

Representative on the Economic and Social Council: Victor S. Marrero (to November 1997); Betty E. King (from December 1997)

Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs: Karl F. Inderfurth (to August 1997)

Representative for UN Management and Reform: Richard Sklar (from August 1997)

U.S. Representative to the European Office of the United Nations, Geneva: (Vacant)

U.S. Representative to International Organizations, Vienna: John B. Ritch III

UN General Assembly

52nd regular session (New York, Sept. 16–Dec. 22)
Representatives: Bill Richardson[1] (Chairman);
A. Peter Burleigh (Vice-Chairman)
Alternates: Howard L. Berman; Elton Gallegly; Betty E. King; Victor S. Marrero; Richard Sklar

10th emergency special session (New York, Apr. 24–25, July 15, Nov. 13)
Representative: Bill Richardson

19th special session (New York, June 23–27)
Ex-Officio Chairman of Delegation: William J. Clinton
Ex-Officio Vice Chairman of Delegation: Albert Gore, Jr.
Representative: Bill Richardson

1. The Secretary of State, Madeleine K. Albright, served as chairman of the delegation, *ex officio*, during her presence at the session.

Subsidiary and Other Bodies

UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation
46th session (Vienna, June 16–20)
Representative: Fred A. Mettler, Jr.
Alternate: Warren K. Sinclair

Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
22nd session (New York, Jan. 27–Feb.7)
Representative: Robert B. Rosenstock
Alternates: John Arbogast; Carolyn Willson

Committee on Conferences
Substantive session (New York, Aug. 25, 26, 28)
Representative: James Bond

Disarmament Commission
19th substantive session (New York, Apr. 21–May 13)
Representatives: Karl F. Inderfurth; Stephen J. Ledogar
Alternate: Katharine C. Crittenberger

Conference on Disarmament
First Part (Geneva, Jan. 20–Mar. 27)
Representative: Stephen J. Ledogar
Alternate: Katharine C. Crittenberger
Second Part (Geneva, May 12–June 27)
Acting Head: Katharine C. Crittenberger
Acting Deputy: John H. King

Committee on Information
19th session (New York, May 13–19, Sept. 3, Nov. 14–17)
Representative: Calvin Mitchell
Alternates: Walter Douglas (May 13–19)
Tania Chomiak (Sept. 3, Nov. 14–17)

UN Commission on International Trade Law
30th session (Vienna, May 12–30)
Representative: Harold S. Burman
Alternates: John A. Barrett; Donald S. Bernstein;
Burton Lifland; Donald Wallace; Jay Westbrook

Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
40th session (Vienna, June 2–10)
Representative: Ralph Braibanti
Alternate: Kenneth Hodgkins

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations
Meets intermittently in New York.

Security Council

Representative: Bill Richardson
Deputy: A. Peter Burleigh

Trusteeship Council

Did not meet in 1997.

Economic and Social Council and Related Bodies

Organizational sessions: (New York, Jan. 23, Feb. 4–7, May 1–2)

Substantive session (Geneva, June 30–July 25)
Representative: Victor S. Marrero
Alternates: Melinda L. Kimble; Seth Winnick

Functional Commissions

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
6th session (Vienna, Apr. 28–May 9)
Representative: Jonathan Winer
Alternates: John B. Ritch III; Enrique Perez

Commission on Human Rights
53rd session (Geneva, Mar. 10–Apr. 18)
Ex-Officio Head of Delegation: Claiborne Pell
Representative: Nancy H. Rubin
Alternates: Leslie A. Gerson; Gare A. Smith

Commission on Narcotic Drugs
40th session and special segment (Vienna, Mar. 18–27)
Representative: John B. Ritch III
Reconvened session (Dec. 3–4)
Representative: Daniel Fantozzi
Alternate: Joseph C. Snyder

Commission on Population and Development
30th session (New York, Feb. 24–28)
Representative: Marguerite Rivera Houze
Alternate: Margaret J. Pollack

Commission for Social Development
35th session (New York, Feb. 25–Mar. 6)
Representative: Victor S. Marrero

Statistical Commission
29th session (New York, Feb. 11–14)
Representative: Katherine K. Waliman
Alternate: Suzann Evinger

Commission on Science and Technology for Development
3rd session (Geneva, May 12–16)
Representative: William McPherson

Commission on the Status of Women
41st session (New York, Mar. 10–21)
Representative: Linda Tarr-Whelan
Alternate: Victor S. Marrero

Commission on Sustainable Development
5th session (New York, Apr. 7–25)
Representatives: Mark G. Hambley; Timothy E. Wirth
Alternates: Eileen B. Claussen; Victor S. Marrero; Seth Winnick

Regional Economic Commissions

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
53rd session (Bangkok, Apr. 23–30)
Representative: William H. Itoh
Alternate: David R. Moran

Economic Commission for Europe
52nd plenary session (Geneva, Apr. 21–24)
Representative: Leslie A. Gerson
Alternates: Kristie A. Kenney

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Did not meet in 1997.

Standing Committees

Commission on Human Settlements
16th session (Nairobi, Kenya, Apr. 28–May 7)
Representative: David Hales
Alternates: Alan B.C. Latimer; Daniel Magraw

Committee on Natural Resources
Did not meet in 1997.

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
Regular session (May 5–16)
Representative: Victor S. Marrero
Alternate: Seth Winnick

Committee for Program and Coordination
37th session (New York, June 9–July 3)
Representative: Victor S. Marrero
Alternates: Seth Winnick; Linda Shenwick

Related Subsidiary Bodies

UN Children's Fund
Executive Board, annual session (New York, June 2–6)
Representative: Victor S. Marrero
Alternate: Ralph Bresler

UN Development Program
Executive Board, annual session (New York, May 12–23)
Representative: Victor S. Marrero
Alternates: Ralph Bresler; Margaret J. Pollack

UN Environment Program
Governing Council, 19th session (Nairobi, Kenya, Jan. 27–Feb. 7, Apr. 3–4)
Representative: Eileen B. Claussen
Alternate: Michael Metelits

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees
Executive Committee, 48th session (Geneva, Oct. 13–17)
Representative: Phyllis E. Oakley
Alternate: William R. Brownfield

UN Conference on Trade and Development
Conference did not meet in 1997.
Trade and Development Board, 44th session (Geneva, Oct. 13–24)
Representatives: H. Jon Rosenbaum; E. Michael Southwick
Alternates: Frank J. Kerber; Valerie Mims

Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
29th conference (Rome, Nov. 7–18)
Representative: August Schumacher, Jr.
Alternates: James W. Schroeder; Michael Southwick

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
General Conference, 41st session (Vienna, Sept. 29–Oct. 3)
Representative: John B. Ritch III

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Assembly did not meet in 1997.

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
Governing Council, 20th session (Rome, Feb. 20–21)
Representative: Kelly C. Kammerer
Alternate: Thomas Forbord

International Labor Organization (ILO)
Conference, 85th session (Geneva, June 3–19)
Government Delegates: Andrew J. Samet; Gare A. Smith
Alternates: Edward Cummings; Leslie Gerson; David A. Peterson

International Maritime Organization (IMO)
Assembly, 20th session (London, Nov. 17–28)
Representative: Robert E. Kramek
Alternate: John Michael Garner

International Monetary Fund (IMF)
U.S. Governor: Robert E. Rubin
Alternates: Alan Greenspan; Robert C. North

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Plenipotentiary Conference did not meet in 1997.

Council (Geneva, June 18–27)
Representative: Richard C. Beaird
Alternate: Earl S. Barbely

UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
General Conference, 29th session (Oct. 21–Nov. 13)
Principal Observer: Raymond E. Wanner
Public Members: Dick J. Batchelor; Patrick Gentry Edington

UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
The United States withdrew from UNIDO on December 31, 1996.

Universal Postal Union (UPU)
Universal Postal Congress did not meet in 1997.
Council of Administration (Bern, Oct. 9–24)
Representative: Michael J. Regan

World Bank Group
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
U.S. Governor: Robert E. Rubin
Alternate: Stuart Eizenstat, Acting
U.S. Executive Director: Jan Piercy
Alternate: Michael Marek
International Development Association (IDA)
The U.S. Governor, Executive Director and alternates were the same as those of the IBRD.
International Finance Corporation (IFC)
The U.S. Governor, Executive Director and alternates were the same as those of the IBRD.

World Health Organization (WHO)
50th World Health Assembly (Geneva, May 5–14)
Representatives: Donna E. Shalala; Jo Ivey Boufford; Leslie A. Gerson
Alternates: Kenneth Bernard; Neil A. Boyer; Nils M. Daulaire; Linda Vogel

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
Governing Bodies (Geneva, Sept. 22–Oct. 1)
Representative: Bruce A. Lehman
Alternates: James M. McGlinchey; Robert Stoll

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
Congress did not meet in 1997.

Executive Council, 49th session (Geneva, June 9–20)
Representative: Elbert W. Friday, Jr.
Alternate: Richard S. Greenfield

World Trade Organization (WTO)
Ministerial Conference did not meet in 1997.

U.S. Permanent Representatives to the United Nations from 1946 to 1997

Edward R. Stettinius, Jr. (March 1946–June 1946)

Herschel V. Johnson (acting) (June 1946–January 1947)

Warren R. Austin (January 1947–January 1953)

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. (January 1953–September 1960)

James J. Wadsworth (September 1960–January 1961)

Adlai E. Stevenson (January 1961–July 1965)

Arthur J. Goldberg (July 1965–June 1968)

George W. Ball (June 1968–September 1968)

James Russell Wiggins (October 1968–January 1969)

Charles W. Yost (January 1969–February 1971)

George Bush (February 1971–January 1973)
John P. Scali (February 1973–June 1975)
Daniel P. Moynihan (June 1975–February 1976)
William W. Scranton (March 1976–January 1977)
Andrew Young (January 1977–April 1979)
Donald McHenry (April 1979–January 1981)
Jeane J. Kirkpatrick (February 1981–April 1985)
Vernon Walters (May 1985–January 1989)
Thomas R. Pickering (March 1989–May 1992)
Edward J. Perkins (May 1992–January 1993)
Madeleine K. Albright (February 1993–January 1997)
Bill Richardson (February 1997 –)

Index

A

Abkhazia, 16
Afghanistan, 13–14
Africa, 5–11
Agenda 21, 40, 41
Albania, 14
Albright, Madeleine K., 99
Al-Sultan, Fawzi, 87
Angola, 5–6
Annan, Kofi, 27, 37
Arbour, Louise, 69
Arlacchi, Pino, 46, 47

B

Baker III, James A., 10, 73
Bangui Agreements, 7
Bedjaoui, Mohammed, 61
Bellamy, Carol, 38, 82
Bertini, Catherine, 53, 82
Bildt, Carl, 19
Bogsch, Arpad, 82, 100
Bongo, El Hadj Omar, 7
Bourn, John, 72
Brahimi, Lakhdar, 13
Brundtland, Gro Harlem, 97
budget, UN, 71–72
Burundi, 6–7

C

Central African Republic, 7
Charter of the United Nations, Special Committee on the, 68
Clerides, Glafcos, 15
Climate Change, UN Framework Convention on, 58
Clinton, William J., 41
CND, see Narcotic Drugs, Commission on
Committee for Program and Coordination, 76–77
Committee of 24, 24
Congo, Democratic Republic of the, 7–8
Connor, Joseph E., 36, 71
COPUOS, see Outer Space, Committee on the Peaceful Uses of
Cordovez, Diego, 15
CPC, see Committee for Program and Coordination
crime prevention, 46–47
Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, UN Commission on, 46–47
CSD, see Sustainable Development, Commission on
CSW, see Women, Commission on the Status of
Cyprus, 14–15

D

Decade of International Law, 66
Dengo, Manuel, 101
Denktash, Rauf, 15
Diouf, Jacques, 83
disarmament, 21–23
Disarmament Commission, UN, 21–22
Disarmament, Conference on, 22
disaster relief, 48–53
drug abuse control, 47–48
Drug Control Program, UN International, 47–48
Dunbar, Charles, 11

E

Earthwatch, 57
ECE, see Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC, see Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOMOG, see Economic Community of West African States Military Observer Group
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 35
Economic Commission for Europe, 34–35
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 35–36
Economic Community of West African States, 8, 10

Economic Community of West African States Military Observer Group, 8, 10
ECOWAS, see Economic Community of West African States
El-Baradei, Mohamed, 84
Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport, 34
ESCAP, see Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

F

FAO, see Food and Agriculture Organization
Feissel, Gustave, 15
financial crisis, UN, 71
Fleischhauer, Carl-August, 61
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 83–84
Fox, John D., 77

G

GATT, 101
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 101
Georgia, 15–16
Gore, Al, 41
Great Lakes region, 7–8
Guatemala, 11–12
Guillaume, Gilbert, 61

H

Habitat II, 39
Haiti, 12–13
Herczegh, Geza, 61
Higgins, Rosalyn, 61
Holl, Norbert, 13
Host Country, Committee on Relations with the, 66–68
human resources management, 79–80
human rights, 43–44
Human Rights, UN Commission on, 43–44
Human Settlements, UN Center for, 39
Human Settlements, UN Commission on, 39–40

I

IAEA, see International Atomic Energy Agency
IARC, see International Agency for Research on Cancer
IBRD, see International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICAO, see International Civil Aviation Organization
ICJ, see International Court of Justice
ICSC, see International Civil Service Commission
IDA, see International Development Association
Idris, Kamil, 100
IFAD, see International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFC, see International Finance Corporation
ILC, see International Law Commission
ILO, see International Labor Organization
IMF, see International Monetary Fund
IMO, see International Maritime Organization
INCB, see Narcotics Control Board, International
Inter-African Mission to Monitor the Implementation of the Bangui Agreements, 7
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, 93
Internal Oversight Services, Office of, 28
International Agency for Research on Cancer, 98
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), 84–85

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, 94
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), 86–87
International Civil Service Commission, 78–79
International Court of Justice, 61–62
international criminal court, 65–66
International Development Association, 94
International Finance Corporation, 95
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), 87
International Labor Organization (ILO), 88–90
International Law Commission, 62–63
International Maritime Organization (IMO), 90–91
International Monetary Fund (IMF), 91
International Police Task Force, 18
International Telecommunication Union (ITU), 91
IPTF, see International Police Task Force
Iraq, 3–4
ITU, see International Telecommunication Union

J

JIU, see Joint Inspection Unit
Jiuyong, Shi, 61
Joint Inspection Unit, 77–78

K

Kabbah, Ahmad Tejan, 10
Kleihues, Paul, 98
Kooijmans, Pieter H., 61
Koroma, Abdul G., 61

L

law of the sea, 24
Leavey, Tom, 82
Liberia, 8–9
Libya, 9–10

M

Mestiri, Mahmoud, 13
Middle East, 1–5
MIGA, see Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
Minorities, Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of, 44
MINUGUA, see UN Verification Mission in Guatemala
MINURSO, see UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
MIPONUH, see UN Civilian Police Mission in Haiti
MISAB, see Inter-African Mission to Monitor the Implementation of the Bangui Agreements
Mobutu Sese Seko, Marechal, 7
Model Protocol Additional to Safeguards Agreements, 84
MONUA, see UN Observer Mission in Angola
Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, 95
Myers, Lucretia, 78

N

Nakajima, Hiroshi, 97
Narcotic Drugs, Commission on, 48
Narcotics Control Board, International, 47
National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, 5
non-self-governing territories, 24–25
Ntibantunganya, Sylvestre, 6
Nyerere, Julius, 6

O

Obasi, G.O.P., 101
Oda, Shigeru, 61
OIOS, see Internal Oversight Services, Office of
Outer Space, Committee on the Peaceful Uses of, 23–24

P

PAHO, see Pan American Health Organization
Pan American Health Organization, 98
Parra-Aranguren, Gonzalo, 61
Paschke, Karl Theodor, 28
Patasse, Ange, 7
peace and security, 20–21
peacekeeping operations, financing, 73–74
Piot, Peter, 99
POLISARIO, 10
population activities, 38–39
Purcell, James, 82

R

Ranjeva, Raymond, 61
reform, ECOSOC, 30–31
reform, peacekeeping, 31–32
reform, Security Council, 32
reform, UN, 27–32
Refugees, UN High Commissioner for, 54–55
regional economic commissions, 33–36
ReliefWeb, 51–53
Rezak, Jose F., 61
Richardson, Bill, 7, 11
Rosenstock, Robert, 62
Rubin, Nancy H., 43
Rwanda, International Criminal Tribunal for, 69

S

Sahnoun, Mohamed, 7
Savimbi, Jonas, 5
scale of assessments, UN, 74–76
Schwebel, Stephen M., 61
Sierra Leone, 10
Social Development, Commission for, 55
Southeast European Cooperative Initiative, 34
Speth, James Gustave, 37, 82
sustainable development, 40–42
Sustainable Development, Commission on, 40–41

T

Tajikistan, 16–17
Tarr-Whelan, Linda, 44
Taylor, Charles, 9
tenth emergency special session, 4–5
terrorism, 68
Toepfer, Klaus, 57
Trade and Development, UN Conference on, 40
Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, 100
TRIPS, 100

U

UN Angola Verification Mission III, 5
UN Children's Fund, 37–38
UN Civilian Police Mission in Haiti, 12
UN Commission on International Trade Law, 63–65
UN Conference on Environment and Development, 40
UN Conference on Human Settlements, see Habitat II
UN Confidence Restoration Organization in Croatia, 18
UN Development Group, 37
UN Development Program, 36–37
UN Disengagement Observer Force, 2
UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 92–94

UN Environment Program, 57
UN Interim Force in Lebanon, 2
UN Military Observers in Prevlaka, 18
UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara, 11
UN Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 18
UN Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, 16, 20
UN Observer Mission in Angola, 5, 20
UN Observer Mission in Georgia, 15
UN Observer Mission in Liberia, 8
UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, 14
UN Population Fund, 38–39
UN Preventive Deployment Force, 19
UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, 2–3
UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 58–59
UN Special Commission, 3
UN Transition Mission in Haiti, 12
UN Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium, 17, 20
UN Verification Mission in Guatemala, 12
UNAIDS, 99
UNAVEM III, see UN Angola Verification Mission III
UNCED, see UN Conference on Environment and Development
UNCHR, see UN Commission on Human Rights
UNCITRAL, see UN Commission on International Trade Law, 63
UNCPCJP, see Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, UN Commission on
UNCRO, see UN Confidence Restoration Organization in Croatia
UNCTAD, see Trade and Development, UN Conference on
UNDC, see UN Disarmament Commission
UNDCP, see Drug Control Program, UN International
UNDOF, see UN Disengagement Observer Force
UNDP, see UN Development Program
UNEP, see UN Environment Program
UNESCO, see UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFICYP, see UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
UNFPA, see UN Population Fund
UNHCR, see Refugees, UN High Commissioner for
UNICEF, see UN Children's Fund
Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca, 12
UNIFIL, see UN Interim Force in Lebanon
UNITA, see National Union for the Total Independence of Angola
United International Bureau for the Protection of Intellectual Property, 99
Universal Postal Union, 94
UNMIBH, see UN Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina
UNMOP, see UN Military Observers in Prevlaka
UNMOT, see UN Mission of Observers in Tajikistan
UNOMIG, see UN Observer Mission in Georgia
UNOMIL, see UN Observer Mission in Liberia

UNPREDEP, see UN Preventive Deployment Force
UNRWA, see UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNSCEAR, see UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation
UNSCOM, see UN Special Commission
UNTAES, see UN Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium
UNTMIH, see UN Transition Mission in Haiti
UPU, see Universal Postal Union
URNG, see Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca

V

Vereshchetin, Vladlen S., 61
Vieira de Mello, Sergio, 50

W

Weeramantry, Christopher G., 61
Weissbrodt, David, 43, 44
Westendorp, Carlos, 19
Western Sahara, 10–11
WFP, see World Food Program
WHO, see World Health Organization
WIPO, see World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO, see World Meteorological Organization
women, 44–46
Women, Commission on the Status of, 44–46
World Bank Group, 94
World Food Program, 53–54
World Food Summit, 84
World Health Organization (WHO), 95–99
World Heritage Convention, 93
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), 99–100
World Meteorological Organization, 100–101
World Radiocommunications Conference, 92
World Trade Organization, 101–102
WTO, see World Trade Organization

Y

Yugoslavia, International Criminal Tribunal for the former, 69
Yugoslavia, the former, 17–19

Z

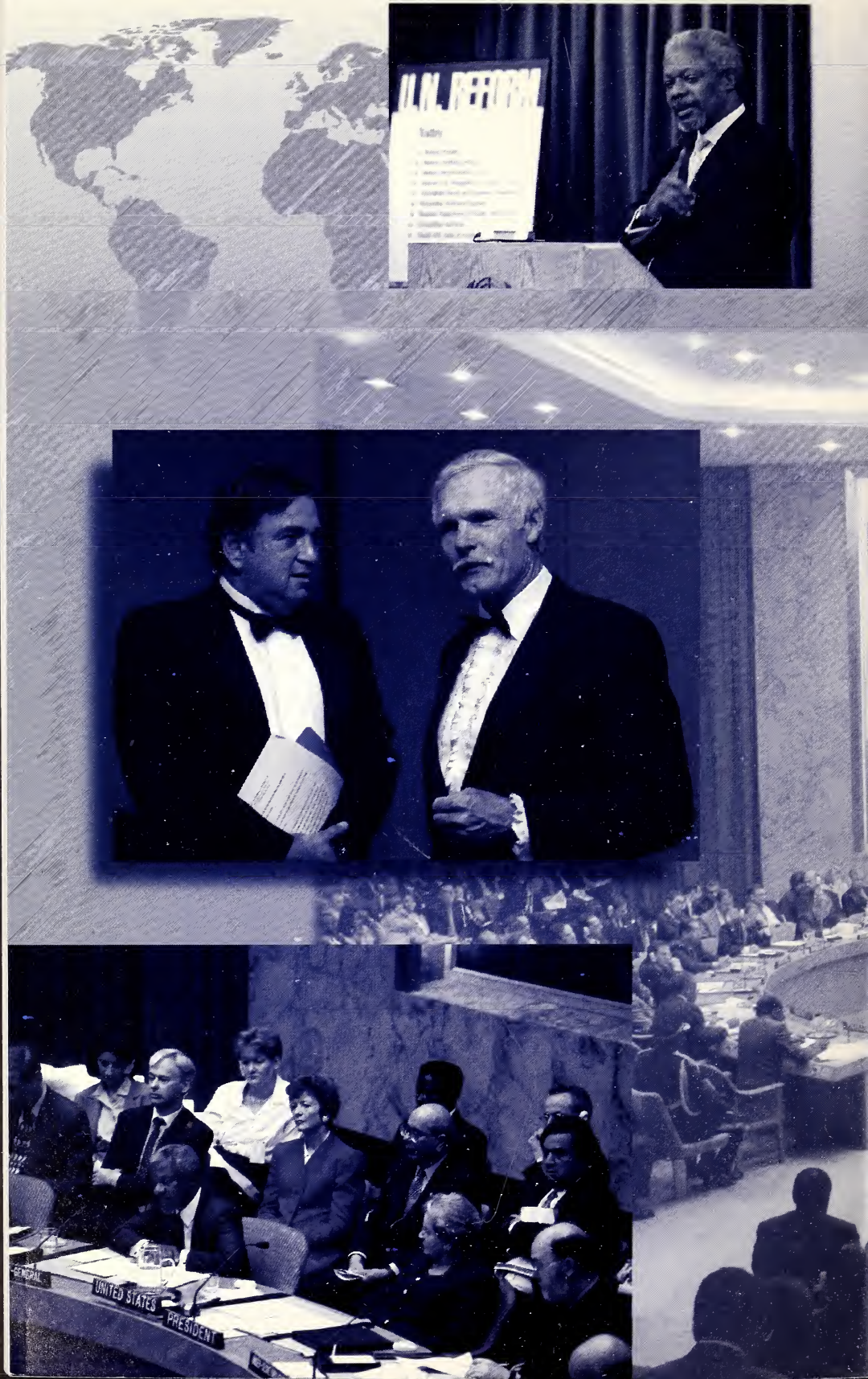
Zaire, 7

1997 PR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE PUBLICATION 10558
Bureau of International Organization Affairs
Released July 1998

Cover photos by: United Nations

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402


UNITED STATES
PRESIDENT